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Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 · $3

ELECTION 2024

Worry over Biden's age grips some Democrats

Polls show voters are increasingly anxious about president's energy

BY TOLUSE OLORUNNIPA, MERYL KORNFIELD AND COLBY ITKOWITZ

A growing number of polls are showing voters concerned about President Biden's age and energy. Democratic lawmakers have hesitated to offer full-throated endorsements of his running mate. Prominent commentators have ruminated on whether he should drop out of the presidential race.

This series of political vulnerabilities — along with House Republicans announcing an impeachment inquiry and the Justice Department indicting Biden's son on gun charges — is now sending waves of anxiety through parts of the Democratic Party, as some fret about whether the man who helped oust Donald Trump from the White House may not have the vitality, at 80, to successfully prevent a return.

"He is in a period of his life where passing and death is imminent," said Sharon Sweda, the leader of the Democratic Party in Lorain County in Ohio, who said she often hears from voters worried about the president's potential frailty. "We are all on a ticking clock. But when you're at his age or at Trump's age, that clock is ticking a little faster, and that's a concern for voters."

Many in the party continue to voice confidence in Biden, and they note that Trump himself is not much younger at 77. But

SEE BIDEN ON A8



MOHAMMED DABBOUS/REUTERS

Siamak Namazi, wearing eyeglasses, and Morad Tahbaz, using a mask, arrive in Qatar after a flight from Iran. They were among the American citizens released in a U.S.-Iran prisoner swap. Some of the freed Iranians had been charged with crimes but not yet convicted.

Swap by Iran and U.S. frees 10

A PARTIAL THAW IN PRISONER RELEASE

Move unblocks $6B in frozen Iranian oil funds

BY JOHN HUDSON

NEW YORK — The United States and Iran freed 10 people Monday in a high-stakes prisoner swap that signaled a partial thaw in icy relations between the longtime adversaries.

Five American citizens held in Iran made a brief stop in Qatar before continuing on to the United States. The U.S. government, in exchange, released five Iranians and unblocked the transfer of $6 billion in frozen Iranian oil funds held in South Korea.

The deal, negotiated over several months, marks a major breakthrough for bitter foes who remain at odds over various issues, including the rapid expansion of Tehran's nuclear program, its ongoing military support for Russia and Iran's crackdown on internal dissent.

The swap took place hours after President Biden and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi arrived in New York to attend a gathering of world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly. The men are not scheduled to meet.

Biden, in a statement, said that the Americans freed by Iran had endured "years of agony, uncertainty, and suffering." He thanked

SEE IRAN ON A15

Analysis: Deal could lead to talks on more substantive issues. **A14**

In key Wagner outpost, Moscow steps into breach

Central African Republic sees shift in control of Prigozhin's mercenaries

BY RACHEL CHASON AND BARBARA DEBOUT

BANGUI, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC — Since the mercenaries of Russia's notorious Wagner Group first arrived here five years ago, they have embedded themselves in the security operations and economy of this impoverished but resource-rich country. While operating largely independently of Moscow, the group helped project Russian influence deep into Africa.

Now, after the death of Wagner boss Yevgeniy Prigozhin last month in a suspicious plane crash, officials in the Central African Republic say the Russian government is moving to take direct control over the more than 1,000 mercenaries here.

President Faustin-Archange Touadéra said in an interview at the presidential palace that Russian fighters would remain in his country under his agreement with Moscow and continue to provide security at a "difficult moment," as CAR continues to struggle with rebel groups that have been attacking soldiers and civilians in the countryside.

"It has always been the Russian government with which we contracted," said Touadéra, whose security detail included Wagner fighters in khakis standing guard outside his office.

This month, Russian Deputy Defense Minister Yunus-bek Yevkurov and Maj. Gen. Andrei Averyanov of the Russian military intelligence agency, the GRU, visited Bangui and informed Touadéra and other top CAR officials that the Russian presence would continue but under the command of the Russian Defense Ministry, according to Central African and Western officials. The president confirmed the meeting, saying, "We have state-to-state relations with Russia, so it is normal that the vice minister visited us in the context of our security relationship."

Fidele Gouandjika, an adviser to Touadéra, said that if the fighters don't want to obey Russia's Defense Ministry, they will have no choice but to depart. "It is Russia that sent them and armed them," Gouandjika said, "and Russia that will decide when Wagner leaves."

CAR has historically represented Wagner's largest outpost on the continent, though the group has been active in at least four African countries and set its sights on others, provoking growing concern in Western capitals.

The Africa tour by Yevkurov and Averyanov also included stops in Mali, where Wagner has a substantial presence, and Burkina Faso, where Wagner leaders

SEE AFRICA ON A24

Bondsman a key figure in effort to flip Georgia

Indicted Trump backer worked tirelessly to push allegations of voter fraud

BY ISAAC STANLEY-BECKER

More than two weeks after the 2020 election, and a day after a statewide audit affirmed Joe Biden's win in Georgia, a surprising figure stepped forward to scrutinize the results.

Scott G. Hall, a bail bondsman from the Augusta area, "has been looking into the election on behalf of the President," Georgia's Republican Party chairman told party officials in a Nov. 20 email reviewed by The Washington Post. Hall was doing so, added the state chairman, "at the request of David Bossie," the Republican operative, onetime deputy Trump campaign manager and chairman of the conservative activist group Citizens United — and a relative of Hall's.

Six weeks later, Hall had the ear of Jeffrey Clark, a senior Justice Department official, according to Atlanta-area prosecutors. Hall's words, delivered in a 63-minute phone call on Jan. 2, carried weight. Clark would later cite the conversation as part of

SEE GEORGIA ON A4

Before her rare diagnosis, a long struggle

In deciding not to run again, Rep. Jennifer Wexton wants to spend remaining years with family

BY JENNA PORTNOY



ROBB HILL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Rep. Jennifer Wexton (D-Va.) at her home in Leesburg, Va., with her dogs Lady Bear and Wanda. Wexton has progressive supranuclear palsy, a disease that has no cure.

Rep. Jennifer Wexton (D-Va.) promised this spring to persevere as she revealed a Parkinson's disease diagnosis that stilted her movements and slurred her speech, hurdles she hoped to overcome while serving a competitive Northern Virginia district.

But as Wexton, 55, failed to respond to treatments as hoped, this summer she found herself confronting a more serious diagnosis: progressive supranuclear palsy. Her instinct — the same thing that propelled her from the state Senate to Congress — was to fight.

"Can I still run for reelection?" she recalled asking her doctor, as they looked at the distinctive hummingbird shape on her brain scan that changed everything — again.

"Why would you want to?" the doctor replied.

The rare neurological disorder — often mistaken for Parkinson's because the early symptoms are similar — typically progresses more rapidly, does not respond as well to treatment and has no cure. Faced with the reality that her condition will likely only worsen, Wexton said she will not seek a fourth term next year, choosing instead to spend her remaining years with her family.

"People I know know I've struggled for a long time," she said Saturday from her kitchen table in Leesburg. "I'll be able to relax and enjoy the time I have left and the time I have left in Congress."

Her decision could make Democrats vulnerable in a Loudoun County-based seat that Republicans held for 40 years before Wexton defeated Barbara Comstock in 2018 on a wave of anti-Trump fervor. Wexton won a third term by six points in the midterm elections,

SEE WEXTON ON A19

Canada to investigate India's ties to slaying

Trudeau says 'credible allegations' show link to killing of Sikh leader

BY AMANDA COLETTA

TORONTO — Canadian authorities are pursuing "credible allegations" of links connecting agents of the Indian government to the slaying of a prominent Sikh leader on Canadian soil, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau told lawmakers Monday.

Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Canadian citizen who advocated for the creation of a separate Sikh state in the Punjab region of India, was fatally shot in his vehicle in June by two masked gunmen outside the Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara temple in Surrey, British Columbia. Nijjar, who was born in India but based in Canada, was president of the temple. He was 45.

Trudeau, speaking in the House of Commons on Monday afternoon, did not detail the allegations. He said he had taken his "deep concerns" to top Indian security and intelligence officials and also conveyed them "personally and directly" and "in no uncertain terms" to Indian Prime

SEE CANADA ON A20

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CORRECTION

• A Sept. 17 Sports article about Sam Howell incorrectly said the Commanders quarterback was 22. He had turned 23 the previous day.

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THE FIX

Antiabortion groups' complex Trump problem

BY AARON BLAKE



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Former president Donald Trump speaks at the Concerned Women for America Summit on Friday in D.C. His latest comments present a political decision point for the antiabortion wing of the GOP.

Back in April, one of the country's leading antiabortion groups put former president Donald Trump on notice. Trump had punted on supporting a federal 15-week abortion ban, suggesting that it was an issue of states' rights. The group, Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, called that "morally indefensible."

Then, after meeting with Trump but with no public assurance that he had suddenly embraced its position, the group seemed to warm back up to him.

Just a week later, Trump again undercut antiabortion groups, this time suggesting that six-week bans might be "too harsh."

Trump has now departed from these groups' line in his starkest terms yet. And his latest comments, more than ever, present a political decision point for the embattled antiabortion wing of the party and its willingness to accommodate him.

During an interview with NBC's "Meet the Press" that was broadcast Sunday, Trump not only declined to back a federal 15-week ban, but he called the six-week ban forged by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) "a terrible thing and a terrible mistake." Whereas Trump had previously qualified his "too harsh" comments with his usual many-people-are-saying rhetorical device, he's now taking ownership.

The question becomes: Will such groups grin and bear it, with Trump serving as the presumptive GOP presidential nominee? Or will they fight back? The former presents the possibility that they could be left out in the cold; the latter presents the possibility of a major and lasting setback in the battle over abortion restrictions now that *Roe v. Wade* has been overturned.

To be clear, Trump is effectively criticizing not just DeSantis, but a wide swath of Republicans. More than a dozen states have moved to effectively ban abortion throughout pregnancy, and at least four others have moved to ban the procedure at around six weeks. The states pressing the six-week bans also include a crucial early state on the primary calendar, Iowa, where Trump has been somewhat at odds with Gov. Kim Reynolds (R).

That's a huge majority of Republican-controlled states that have at least done what Trump now labels "terrible," reinforcing how extraordinary his comments are.

From a general-election standpoint, Trump's move makes sense. Polls show that complete abortion bans and six-week bans are broadly unpopular. A recent Marquette University Law School poll showed 65 percent of Americans oppose a six-week ban. That number drops slightly — 59 percent in a recent Gallup poll — when you mention the idea that this is when a fetal heartbeat can be detected, which is how Republicans pitch such laws.

(The Marquette poll also showed more than twice as many Americans strongly oppose such laws as strongly favor them. Looking at those numbers, you begin to see why even DeSantis was initially wary of hailing Florida's legislation.)

Among Republicans, though, it's more complicated, with more than 6 in 10 favoring such bans.

As with most abortion-related issues, the party is stuck in a post-*Dobbs v. Jackson* dilemma between what most of its base wants and what is broadly palatable. The 2022 election was not kind to Republican abortion hard-liners, leading to significant caution among presidential hopefuls even beyond Trump and DeSantis.

Trump's view of the politics of this issue has been increasingly evident, starting in the post-midterm period when he suggested that being too firm on abortion — particularly opposing exceptions such as rape and incest — had cost Republicans. What's particularly striking about that is that Trump has always taken great care to align with his base, often at the expense of his broader appeal. But on this issue, he may see danger in marginalizing himself for the general election.

Trump's policy positions are always subject to change. And plenty will dismiss this as posturing for the general election by a former president who has otherwise hailed his selections of the Supreme Court justices who overturned *Roe v. Wade*. But Trump staking out this ground matters.

And as he has increased his stranglehold on the GOP nomination, he appears to have become emboldened to try to pull his party away from that harder line on abortion rights. That presents a dilemma.

It's broadly understood that the Trump-era conservative movement is less about the details and more about the man. When Trump departs from GOP orthodoxy, it will often simply adjust its priority to align with him — or dismiss the importance of the issue.

But abortion is an issue on which the most passionate segment of the base is often inflexible and adamant. His comments serve to test just how firm antiabortion Republicans are and how willing they are to police their own, when their own in this case is very likely to continue leading the party into the 2024 election.

For now, the response has been muted. Trump's move has spawned some pushback on social media from some of the usual allies, but antiabortion groups haven't leaped to go after him.

A case in point is the response from Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America. While in April it called Trump's comments "morally indefensible" and accused him of a "completely inaccurate reading of the *Dobbs* decision," on Monday it dealt more obliquely with Trump's even more provocative comments.

"We're at a moment where we need a human rights advocate, someone who is dedicated to saving the lives of children and serving mothers in need. Every single candidate should be clear on how they plan to do that," the group's president, Marjorie Dannenfelser, said. She added that "anything later than a 15-week" national standard "makes no sense."

The statement did not mention Trump by name, nor did it directly address Trump's comments on six-week bans. The group did later follow up with an additional statement invoking Trump opponent DeSantis, whom it praised for "following the science and the will of the people" in signing the state's six-week ban.

Trump is signaling quite the opposite on this being the "will of the people"— and for good reason. Now antiabortion groups are tasked with figuring out precisely what to do with that.

Trump attacks 'liberal Jews' amid Rosh Hashanah celebrations

BY MARIANA ALFARO

Posting of flier draws rebuke, with one critic calling move 'antisemitic'

On the final day of the Jewish New Year celebration, former president Donald Trump shared a flier on social media accusing "liberal Jews" who didn't support him of having voted "to destroy America & Israel."

In a post Sunday on Truth Social, his social media platform, the 2024 Republican presidential front-runner added a flier created by the organization JEXIT — a group that seeks to draw Jewish voters away from the Democratic Party. Text featured in the flier appears on the group's Facebook and Instagram pages.

"Let's hope you learned from your mistake & make better choices moving forward!" the flier reads. "Happy New Year!"

Trump's post amid the celebration of Rosh Hashanah drew strong rebuke, with Amy Spitalnick, chief executive of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, calling it "antisemitic."

Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, said it is "dangerous and wrong to suggest an entire segment of the Jewish population voted to destroy America and Israel."

"Whether or not it's intentional, President Trump is playing into conspiracy theories about dual loyalty here," Greenblatt said in a statement to The Washington Post. "Even worse, this is happening on one of the holiest days of the Jewish calendar, Rosh Hashanah."

Jewish people have historically voted for Democrats in far greater numbers than for Republicans, and Trump has a lengthy history of attacking Jewish voters who don't support him.

In March 2019, for instance, ahead of a visit by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Trump said Democrats are "anti-Israel" and "anti-Jewish."

Months later, in August 2019, he said any Jewish people who vote for Democrats are showing "either a total lack of knowledge or great disloyalty," prompting an outcry from critics who said the president's remarks were promoting antisemitic stereotypes.

In October last year, Trump once again attacked American Jews as not supporting him enough. Leaning on the antisemitic trope that U.S. Jews hold secret loyalty to Israel rather than the United States, Trump suggested they should show more appreciation to Israel and to him, since he believed "no president" had done more for Israel than he had.

The former president has long expressed frustration that support for him among U.S. Jews hasn't grown, particularly since as president he moved the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The flier Trump shared on Truth Social on Sunday listed the move of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem and the 2019 U.S. recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the disputed territory of the Golan Heights as proof that the former president is not an antisemite.

Greenblatt, of the ADL, noted that, even though his organization "supported many of these policy decisions, the ADL doesn't believe that our community needs to be lectured about how to vote."

Michelle Terris, founder of JEXIT, said Trump posted the flier after having dinner over the weekend with JEXIT board member Siggy Flicker, a former cast member of "The Real Housewives of New Jersey."

"We believe he shared it on Truth Social because he is so proud of his record of support for the Jewish community in America and for the State of Israel," Terris said.

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U. S. Navy
Notice of Availability for the Record of Decision (ROD)
Final Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Land Acquisition at the Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC

The Department of the Navy, after carefully weighing the strategic, operational, and environmental consequences of the proposed action, announces its decision to select Alternative 1A (Preferred Alternative) from the *Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Proposed Land Acquisition at the Washington Navy Yard (WNY)*. The selected alternative involves the Navy exchanging approximately 15 acres within the Southeast Corner of the WNY with a private developer to obtain the approximately 6-acre Southeast Federal Center (SEFC) E Parcels. The Navy may enter into a lease agreement with a non-federal entity to relocate the existing National Museum of the U.S. Navy to the SEFC E Parcels. This alternative also includes construction of mixed-use development on the WNY Southeast Corner and in-kind considerations by the developer.

The Navy welcomes you to view the ROD and Final EIS available at:
https://ndw.cnic.navy.mil/WNY-Land-Acquisition/1/

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POLITICS & THE NATION

Biden administration calls on states to rectify underfunding of HBCUs

BY DANIELLE DOUGLAS-GABRIEL

The secretaries of education and agriculture on Monday sent joint letters to the governors of 16 states, urging them to rectify decades of underfunding to historically Black land-grant universities as a new analysis shows the colleges have collectively received some $12.6 billion less than they should have.

"Unacceptable funding inequities have forced many of our nation's distinguished historically Black colleges and universities to operate with inadequate resources and delay critical investments in everything from campus infrastructure to research and development to student support services," Education Secretary Miguel Cardona said in a statement Monday. "To compete in the 21st century we need state leaders to step up and live up to their legally required obligations to our historically Black land-grant institutions."

The letters, signed by Cardona and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, were sent to the governors of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. The move comes as advocates for historically Black colleges and universities have for years pushed states to increase funding for the institutions, sometimes going to court for relief.

The nation's land-grant universities are the backbone of public higher education, a collection of schools founded in the 19th century on federal land to further agricultural instruction and research. They include Big Ten institutions and other flagship universities that have benefited from state and federal investment. States are obligated under federal law to provide an equitable distribution of state funding for all land-grant universities, but many have shortchanged the historically Black ones. And advocates for HBCUs say the federal government has looked the other way for too long.

Using data from the National Center for Education Statistics, the education and agriculture departments found a roughly $12.6 billion aggregate disparity between the funding states provided historically Black land grants and their traditionally White counterparts between 1987 and 2020. The analysis largely mirrors a 2022 accounting in Forbes magazine of the chronic underfunding of public HBCUs, but the departments' figures are higher because they include state appropriations and contracts.

Of the 18 states that house Black land grants — known as 1890 institutions because they were created by the Morrill Act of 1890 — only Delaware and Ohio have provided equitable funding, according to the federal analysis. Central State University, an HBCU in Ohio, was not given land-grant status and the public funding it confers until 2014.

Tennessee and North Carolina account for the starkest disparities, as Tennessee State and North Carolina A&T universities have each received some $2 billion less than they should have over the 33-year period, the analysis shows. Florida is not far behind, with a $1.9 billion gap in total state appropriations per student between its Black land grant Florida A&M University and the University of Florida, according to the federal analysis.

The analysis captures a sliver of state underfunding because 1987 is the earliest year for which comprehensive data is available, but the decades of disparities have been well-documented. The inequities have led to lawsuits in Maryland, Mississippi, Alabama and South Carolina. Settlements in some of those cases and efforts in state legislatures to reverse funding gaps have improved the situation for some schools.



DEMETRIUS FREEMAN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Education Secretary Miguel Cardona, seen with White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre in June, joined Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack in sending joint letters to 16 governors.

In 2020, Maryland provided its Black land grant for the University of Maryland Eastern Shore at $3,397 more per student than the University of Maryland College Park, according to the federal analysis. The state has upped its appropriations over the years, and in 2021 agreed to pay $577 million over a decade to its four HBCUs to settle a 15-year court battle over inequitable funding.

The settlement and increased appropriations have helped Eastern Shore expand agricultural programs and fund scholarships. But higher education experts say the money is not enough to undo generations of state neglect. In the last 30 years alone, Maryland should have provided $321 million to the university to meet the match requirements, according to the federal analysis.

"These funds could have supported infrastructure and student services and would have better positioned the university to compete for research grants," Cardona and Vilsack wrote in their letter to Maryland Gov. Wes Moore (D). "The University of Maryland Eastern Shore has been able to make remarkable strides and would be much stronger and better positioned to serve its students, your state, and the nation if made whole with respect to this funding gap."

Moore's office said the governor has been "a strong advocate" for Maryland HBCUs, directing $422 million in funding to assist all four schools in his first budget. His office said the governor will "continue to support these life-changing colleges and universities that make Maryland a more equitable and competitive state."

University of Maryland Eastern Shore President Heidi M. Anderson said she does not expect the state to rectify generations of underfunding overnight but would like to see "strong, tangible progress" in that direction. With a projected budget deficit of $1.8 billion by 2028, Maryland may not be in the best position to take bigger steps toward parity. Still, Anderson remains hopeful.

"I want to believe that there are good intentions and a willingness to tackle this issue, despite a pessimistic outlook on state finances," Anderson said. "All we're asking for is equal treatment. Our students have been running a race in Lane 8 for too long, while their counterparts at the 1862 land-grant institutions have the inside track."

Through litigation and political pressure, Black land-grant universities and their advocates are fighting for support. A group of six students at FAMU filed a class-action lawsuit against the state last year alleging decades of discriminatory underfunding of the university. The case is ongoing.

In Tennessee, state Rep. Harold Love Jr., an alum of TSU, is pressing the state for the millions of dollars the university should have received. He pushed for a 2021 audit that found Tennessee shorted TSU as much as $544 million from 1957 to 2007 in land-grant funding.

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee (R) said in 2022 the state would provide TSU with $250 million in funding for infrastructure projects. While Love said he is grateful for the governor's response, he is advocating for more.

"We're in a good spot right now for the next two years to really move in the direction of getting a good amount of equity for Tennessee State," Love told The Washington Post. "At the end of the day, Tennessee State is a state institution. And the state must treat all of its own the same."

In many ways, the federal government also has to atone for its role in the funding disparities between land-grant universities. A recent report from the Century Foundation detailed how Black land grants were excluded from federal formula payments for research and extension activities for 80 years, placing them at a disadvantage in creating the kind of infrastructure needed to compete for grant funding.

When states refuse to match the federal dollars afforded to Black land grants, the schools must seek a waiver from the agriculture department to keep their federal funding. Denise A. Smith, a fellow at the Century Foundation who wrote the recent report, argues the department should have done more over the years to pressure states to meet their obligations to all land grants. She said the agency should phase out the waiver to end the discrimination.

Mortimer H. Neufville, president and chief executive of the 1890 Universities Foundation, said the one-to-one match should be treated as "a floor, not a ceiling for ongoing funding" because many traditionally White land grants have long received much more than states were required to provide.

The joint letters from the education and agriculture secretaries arrive as Congress is in the midst of reauthorizing the Farm Bill, which provides federal resources to support land-grant universities.

Advocates for 1890 institutions are pressing lawmakers to authorize more funding through the legislation, but that is a heavy lift given the budget caps imposed during the deal to raise the debt ceiling.

DIGEST

SOUTH CAROLINA

Stealth fighter found a day after crash

The F-35's stealth is touted as one of the fighter jet's marquee features and is usually beneficial for the U.S. military. That is, until it loses one of the planes.

A Marine Corps F-35B Lightning II jet went down near Joint Base Charleston, S.C., on Sunday afternoon, and the pilot ejected safely and was in stable condition, the base said. Officials found the missing jet's debris field Monday evening in Williamsburg County, about two hours northeast of Joint Base Charleston.

But for about 24 hours, responders weren't sure where the plane ended up.

The jet's transponder, which usually helps locate the aircraft, was not working "for some reason that we haven't yet determined," said Jeremy Huggins, a spokesman at Joint Base Charleston.

In an appeal posted to social media Sunday, Joint Base Charleston asked the public to contact the base if anyone had information about the aircraft's whereabouts.

Based on the jet's last known location, Huggins said on Sunday that the search was concentrated near Lake Moultrie, a murky body of water that is 75 feet deep at its deepest point and 14 miles across at its widest. Williamsburg County, where the F-35B's debris was found, is north of Lake Moultrie.

The U.S. Air Force and Federal Aviation Administration assisted in the response. Lockheed Martin, which makes the F-35, said it was supporting the government's investigation.

When an F-35 crashed for the first time in 2018, it was initially classified as a "Class A" mishap, which involves $2 million or more in damage, the complete destruction of the plane, or the fatality or permanent total disability of the crew.

— Bryan Pietsch, Kyle Rempfer and Anumita Kaur

CALIFORNIA

Suspect arrested in killing of deputy

A man was arrested early Monday in the ambush killing of a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy who was shot as he sat in a patrol car, authorities said.

The suspect, 29, barricaded himself in a home in Palmdale but later surrendered, Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna said.

Luna said authorities have not yet determined a motive in the killing.

Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer, 30, died at a hospital after the Saturday evening shooting.

Hundreds at a vigil Sunday mourned the death of the third-generation law enforcement officer.

Clinkunbroomer had gotten engaged four days before the shooting.

Luna said the department received information the suspect was at a Palmdale residence. The man was barricaded inside the home for several hours before being arrested peacefully, Luna said.

The department released grainy surveillance video of a dark-colored sedan that pulled alongside the patrol car in the moments before the shooting.

Clinkunbroomer had just left the sheriff's station in Palmdale, a city of more than 167,000 residents in the high desert of northern Los Angeles County.

— Associated Press

Gator with missing nose and upper jaw finds new home: A Florida reptile park has taken in an alligator that lost its nose and upper jaw to a fight or boat propeller. Gatorland Orlando said over the weekend that the injured alligator came from a lake in Sanford, about 20 miles northeast of Orlando. To get the gator to eat, staff members are cutting up small pieces of food that they will toss into the back of its throat, a park spokeswoman said in an email.

— Associated Press





Bail bondsman became key figure in effort to flip Georgia vote to Trump

GEORGIA FROM **A1**

his push to use Justice Department authority to delegitimize the Georgia election, according to testimony and contemporaneous notes gathered by congressional investigators.

A few days later, Hall was part of a cadre of Trump loyalists who allegedly descended on Coffee County, population 43,000, in Georgia to gain access to sensitive election data. He later boasted of his efforts, saying, "We scanned every freaking ballot."

Hall's alleged actions are detailed in the indictment brought last month by the Fulton County district attorney, Fani T. Willis, against Hall, Trump and 17 other defendants. The indictment portrays the bondsman, who makes his living by posting bail for defendants in exchange for a fee, as more central to Trump's efforts to cling to power than previously known.

Hall, 59, emerges as key not only to the alleged breach of voting equipment in remote Coffee County, a secretive effort to turn up evidence of fraud, but also to the plot that played out in Washington to strong-arm states into disregarding the will of voters and thwarting Biden's win.

The resulting picture makes clear how the wide-ranging campaign to subvert the 2020 election drew in a sprawling web of people with limited experience in election law who nonetheless styled themselves as specialists. Through some combination of faith in Trump's most outlandish assertions and sheer force of will, these previously unknown players found an audience with some of the president's most powerful allies and helped shape their scheme.

Hall is perhaps the most vivid example of the way in which the charges in Fulton County reach far beyond Trump lawyers and campaign officials, also sweeping up a pastor and a publicist, and a bail bondsman overcome by emotional loyalty to Trump. "I got up this morning and cried," Hall told a Georgia Senate panel in December 2020, describing his grief over Trump's loss. "I literally cried."

Hall harnessed personal and political connections as the stepbrother of Bossie's wife and the owner of one of Georgia's biggest bail bonds businesses to establish himself as a link between little-known activists and high-ranking officials in the federal government.

His role, only now coming into fuller view, shows that numerous exhaustive accounts of the events surrounding the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, including the investigation by the House select committee that yielded public hearings and an 800-page report, still have not revealed the full story of what happened in the weeks after the 2020 election. To some, that story remains baffling, nearly three years later.

"To this day I can't figure out why a bail bondsman would be so deep into pushing election conspiracy theories," said John Melvin, who was the assistant director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation at the time and met with Hall over Zoom in November 2020, in a meeting that also included the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Georgia. "What big stake does he have in the election? You're a concerned citizen, sure, but at the end of the day, you're a bail bondsman. I don't understand it," Melvin said.

Neither Hall nor his attorney responded to requests for comment. Bossie, who has not been charged in connection with the election, also did not respond to inquiries. In court last month, Hall pleaded not guilty to charges that included conspiracy to commit election fraud and conspiracy to defraud the state, as well as violation of an anti-racketeering act originally aimed at dismantling organized crime groups. He was released on a $10,000 bond.

A well-connected industry

Bail bonding is big business in Georgia. Those who cannot afford cash bail avoid jail by relying on a commercial bondsman, who charges a fee that compensates for the hazards of underwriting an accused criminal. Only if the accused fails to appear in court is the bondsman required to fork over payment to the government.

The business requires relationships with judges who set bail and sheriffs who decide what bonds to take, as well as with state lawmakers who regulate the industry. "It is a highly lucrative business," said Terry Norris, executive director of the Georgia Sheriffs Association, who called Hall a friend and a "highly intelligent businessman."

Hall is the chief executive of Anytime Bail Bonding, in operation since 1994, according to a filing in a recent lawsuit. Based in the suburb of Augusta, 150 miles east of Atlanta, it has 45 employees in 11 offices that serve 31 counties throughout the state, including populous Fulton County, which includes Atlanta. Since its founding, the filing states, the company has executed more than 200,000 bonds with a total liability of over $834 million.

Court documents filed this year as part of Hall's divorce proceedings offer a measure of his success. The filings list assets that include four cars, including a 2021 BMW, and a bayside home in Tampa, a condo in Atlanta and a condo in Evans, a suburb of Augusta. His wife, who did not respond to requests for comment, manages communications and technology businesses, according to the court documents.

In 2012, Hall was elected president of the national industry group representing bail bondsmen, the Professional Bail Agents of the United States. He also served as vice president of the state industry lobbying group, the Georgia Association of Professional Bondsmen. Those roles offered him clout in Atlanta and connections to state power brokers. "Many members here probably know me," Hall told the Republican-led Georgia Senate panel when he testified in December 2020.

Friends and business associates, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of ongoing criminal investigations, described Hall as an ardent Republican who became enthusiastic about Trump's rise in 2016. He boasted of attending the Trump campaign's VIP watch party on election night in New York in 2016, these people said.

Trump's election that year delighted Hall but fueled a Democratic surge in the Atlanta suburbs, where the bail bondsman became embroiled in a hotly contested sheriff's race. The race, in Gwinnett County, pitted Republican Lou Solis against Democrat Keybo Taylor, running to become the first Black sheriff there. In 2019, Taylor was caught on camera inside a subsidiary of Hall's bonding company saying, "If folks don't support me, I'm not going to let them bond here."

Taylor would later argue the footage was selectively edited, a dirty trick undertaken to harm his candidacy. When Taylor took office in January 2021, he suspended the ability of Hall's company to write bonds in the county, a move, he told The Post, prompted by what he felt was Hall's dishonest conduct. That caused Hall to sue, alleging attempted extortion and calling Taylor's explanations for his statements "lies."

A settlement allowed the company to resume bonding in Gwinnett County under a different name and without Hall's involvement. A business associate said the episode illustrated how Hall chafed against rising Democratic power in the state. "Scott was not equipped to deal with Democratic leaders," the business associate said. "He didn't have relationships. And his ideology was totally different."

'The whole thing is bizarre'

Hall emerged with complaints about the 2020 election just over a week after the Nov. 3 vote, meeting with senior state and federal law enforcement officials to raise concerns about purported voter fraud in the presidential contest.

Melvin, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation assistant director, said he traveled from Atlanta to Augusta for the meeting at the request of his boss, Vic Reynolds, the agency director. Melvin joined Bobby Christine, the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, in a conference room in the U.S. attorney's office on the banks of the Savannah River, just across the border from South Carolina.

Hall joined on Zoom, Melvin recalled. "The essence of the allegations was that there were a bunch of voting dumps that took place that he said he could 'prove statistically' were illegitimate," Melvin said, adding that anyone familiar with how elections are run would know the patterns that so disturbed Hall did not point to fraud.

"It suggested that ballots were being delivered and counted in batches, which is routine," he said. An attorney for Christine, who was briefly named by Trump as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia after the abrupt resignation of Byung J.



PHOTOS BY KEVIN D. LILES FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

ABOVE: Supporters of President Donald Trump rally outside the Georgia Capitol in Atlanta on Nov. 7, 2020. BELOW: Cobb County election workers recount presidential votes the following week in Marietta after the Georgia secretary of state ordered a hand audit.



Pak in January 2021, declined to comment.

Reynolds, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation director, said Hall also contacted him directly to share his theories. "Scott is an articulate fellow," Reynolds said. "He laid out what he was concerned with. We were doing our best to run down everything that came at us that we believed had any legs. Unequivocally nothing materialized."

Reynolds said he did not find it unusual at the time that Hall engaged with him directly. He had spoken to him before about bail issues, and Reynolds said he was trying to be accessible to members of the public with concerns during the chaotic weeks after the election.

In retrospect, Reynolds said, he is scratching his head over the turmoil in the state. "I think the whole thing is bizarre," he said. "To be there when all of this was happening, and see the accusations that were flying around, I don't know what to tell you other than to say the whole situation was bizarre."

On Nov. 11, Georgia's Republican secretary of state, Brad Raffensperger, said a hand audit would double-check the results of the 2020 election, which showed Biden leading by about 14,000 votes. Hall volunteered to serve as an audit monitor at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta on Nov. 14 and 15, he would say in a sworn affidavit submitted several days later as part of a lawsuit brought by the pro-Trump attorney L. Lin Wood Jr. against Raffensperger and others.

In the affidavit, Hall said he had "observed large quantities of ballots being cast for Joseph Biden on ballots that did not appear to have been mailed," among other alleged irregularities. Wood said in an interview that he could not vouch for Hall's affidavit or provide more details about his account because it was secured by an attorney assisting him at the time, whom he said he later fired.

On Nov. 19, the audit affirmed Biden's win. The next day, the chairman of the Georgia Republican Party, David Shafer, emailed a Trump campaign aide and state and national party staffers to alert them to Hall's role "looking into the election" and to ask for their cooperation. Hall, he wrote, "has requested a list of voters who have told us that they returned their absentee ballots but that those ballots do not show as having been accepted." He added, "Please exchange contact information and help him as needed."

Shafer, who served in the Georgia Senate from 2002 to 2019, knew Hall from his days in the legislature, according to someone familiar with their relationship. In 2018, Hall contributed $2,000 to Shafer's unsuccessful campaign for lieutenant governor, state records show. The two men became reacquainted by Bossie in the weeks after the 2020 election, the person familiar with the situation said.

Bossie and Hall are family, celebrating a recent Thanksgiving together in Alabama, according to a photo on social media reviewed by The Post. But as Hall became adamant on accusations of fraud after the 2020 election and then started claiming he was being followed, Bossie called Shafer to ask whether Hall's claims had any validity, the person familiar with the situation said. Shafer replied that he was unsure, the person said. A lawyer for Shafer, who was also charged in Fulton County, did not respond to a request for comment.

Early the following month, Hall was among a host of people who testified before a Georgia Senate hearing on the 2020 election, joining the likes of Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani to raise alarm about purported fraud. His voice quivering at times, Hall described seeing improper handling of ballots, with a particular emphasis on a lunch area outside the reach of security cameras. "I've been knee-deep in this situation for the past three weeks," he told the lawmakers.

A 63-minute phone call

Patrick Byrne, the former chief executive of the internet retailer Overstock.com, said he was at the Trump Hotel in Washington in late December 2020 when he received a call from Hall. "He told me that he was a bail bondsman in Georgia," Byrne, who became a leading purveyor of Trump's baseless claims of voter fraud, said in an interview. Hall "had a large network of people such as a man in that position would have," Byrne added, including private detectives, cyber experts and people Byrne referred to as "snitches."

Byrne had attended a contentious Oval Office meeting on Dec. 18 in which foreign actors were blamed for swinging the election and Trump mulled over a plan to seize voting machines. Byrne came to refer to Hall as "our man in Georgia," a label he uses for the bail bondsman in his self-published book about the election. In the book, Byrne wrote that Hall had a warehouse in Atlanta where votes were being counted "under observation."

Days later, Hall placed another call, this time to Clark, who had been an environmental lawyer and a midlevel Justice Department official until he was named acting chief of the civil division in summer 2020. While other Justice Department leaders refused to pursue Trump's fantastical claims of fraud, Clark sought to put the weight of federal law enforcement behind the president's bid to stay in power, according to congressional investigators and the federal indictment of Trump secured by special counsel Jack Smith, which describes Clark as Co-Conspirator 4.

Hall's input was critical to Clark's plans. The indictment in Fulton County does not describe what the men discussed during the 63-minute phone call. But an interview conducted by the Senate Judiciary Committee with Richard Donoghue, the acting U.S. deputy attorney general, as well as handwritten notes taken by Donoghue, shed some light on the nature of the conversation.

On the same day of his call with Hall, Clark met with Donoghue and others and urged them to send a letter to officials in Georgia declaring that the Justice Department had reason to doubt the legitimacy of the 2020 election and encouraging them to send an alternate slate of electors supporting Trump to Congress. Donoghue testified that Clark cited his conversation with Hall to make his case. He summarized Clark's pitch this way: "Based on a discussion with this individual in Georgia and the things that came up in the Georgia Senate hearing, that we should send the letter."

In his notes, Donoghue recorded the individual in question as the "Largest bail bondsman in Georgia."

"So this is the individual to who Jeff Clark spoke," Donoghue told Senate investigators. "And he's saying that he, that individual, the bail bondsman, called the head of GBI, which is the Georgia Bureau of Investigations. They were not interested in his reporting. He, again, that individual, the bail bondsman, then called Bobby Christine. Nothing done."

Donoghue, who resisted Clark's proposal and later testified to Congress that he believed it would have sparked "a constitutional crisis," did not respond to a request for comment. A Georgia-based lawyer for Clark, who was indicted alongside Hall in Fulton County, also did not respond to a request for comment.

Flight to Coffee County

Hall urgently needed a plane. That was his fixation in early January 2021, according to people who spoke with him, and who only later learned that his intended destination was Georgia's rural Coffee County.

Coffee County, 200 miles southeast of Atlanta, had come into focus after a local official involved in tabulating votes there told a county board that voting machines could "very easily" be manipulated to shift the count. The official promised she had tallied votes correctly in the county, where Trump won handily, but said she believed that not everyone operating the machines throughout the state was as upstanding.

Trump allies quickly came to believe that examining voting machines in Coffee County would let them prove the devices had vulnerabilities that could have been exploited in Biden's favor across the country. The Fulton County indictment alleges that on Jan. 7, Hall flew to the Douglas Municipal Gene Chambers Airport in Coffee County "for the purpose of assisting with the unlawful breach of election equipment at the Coffee County Board of Elections Registration Office."

The effort, also allegedly involving the county elections supervisor and county Republican Party chairwoman, was aimed at copying and distributing data from elections equipment. Hall and others were captured on a security camera inside the county election office. Two months later, Hall boasted of his efforts in a call with the executive director of a good-government group involved in a long-running lawsuit against the state alleging insecurities in its election system.

"I'm the guy that chartered the jet to go down to Coffee County to have them inspect all of those computers," Hall told the director of the group, Marilyn Marks, according to a transcript of a portion of the call later attached to a public court filing.

Hall, meanwhile, remained convinced through the early months of 2022 in his belief that the election had been rigged. In a group text with other members of the Georgia Association of Professional Bondsmen, he shared news articles about purported ballot harvesting and TikTok videos with crude denunciations of Biden, screenshots reviewed by The Post show. He teased an upcoming documentary on election fraud, predicting, "It's going to piss a lot of people off."

But as investigations into post-election activities intensified in Fulton County and in Washington, the association moved to distance itself from Hall, said Ann Hood, the secretary of the association. He was removed as vice president in a vote in September 2022, during a lunch meeting to which he was invited but did not attend.

"We felt his presence on the board had become detrimental to our cause as a Georgia industry," Hood said in an interview. "The things he was doing and saying were not going to be good for the upcoming legislative session."

Hall did not take kindly to his ouster. He showed up uninvited to an association meeting shortly before Christmas at a luxury hotel in an Atlanta suburb and berated its members for removing him, according to Hood and two others who were there. He spoke of his investigative capabilities, these people said, and jabbed both middle fingers in the air.

Kate Shellnutt in Augusta, Emma Brown and Alice Crites in Washington, and Jon Swaine in New York contributed to this report.

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Trump pressed ex-DOJ official to act on election concerns, his lawyer says

BY AMY GARDNER AND HOLLY BAILEY

ATLANTA — As a Justice Department lawyer after the 2020 election, Jeffrey Clark drafted a letter to top Georgia officials declaring that the agency had reason to doubt the legitimacy of the state's election only after he was pressed to do so by then-President Donald Trump, Clark's lawyer told a skeptical federal judge Monday.

That fact alone, Harry MacDougald argued, warrants that the criminal case against Clark, who was indicted last month in Fulton County, Ga., along with Trump and 17 others in connection with their efforts to overturn the 2020 election in Georgia, should be moved to federal court.

"They say he was acting outside of his lane," MacDougald said. "The president put it in his lane."

U.S. District Judge Steve C. Jones appeared wary of the claim, pressing MacDougald for evidence that Trump had directed Clark to act. MacDougald did not offer any and even appeared uncertain when Jones asked him whether Clark's draft letter was written after a meeting among him, Trump and several other senior Justice Department officials.

MacDougald described how Clark drafted the letter in his office at the Justice Department and used his DOJ email to send the document. He said it would be "simply impossible" for Clark to do what he is charged with if he were not acting as a federal official and said Trump had "ratified" his client's conduct.

Clark waived his right to appear at the hearing Monday and was not in court. The former Justice Department official filed a "declaration" in which he sought to explain that his actions in question were undertaken in his capacity as a federal officer and warrant removing the case to federal court. But prosecutors objected to the document being introduced as evidence because they could not cross-examine Clark, and Jones agreed.

Clark's sworn declaration, filed on the court docket on Sept. 14, did not appear to corroborate MacDougald's claim in court Monday that Trump directed Clark's actions. A spokesman for Trump did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Clark has been charged with two counts in the sprawling indictment, which accuses the 19 defendants of participating in a criminal conspiracy to steal the 2020 election. In addition to being charged with violating Georgia's anti-racketeering law, Clark was also accused of attempting to create a false statement — a reference to his draft letter, which falsely claimed that the Justice Department was investigating irregularities in Georgia and encouraged state officials to send alternate slates of pro-Trump electors to Congress. DOJ leaders balked, and the letter was never sent.

The broader case is unfolding in Fulton County Superior Court and is the second criminal indictment involving Trump's attempts to reverse his 2020 defeat. The first prosecution, led by special counsel Jack Smith, was filed in federal court in D.C. in August.

But Monday's hearing was in federal court, where Clark is seeking to move his case, along with four other defendants in the Georgia case, claiming that he was acting as a federal officer. The defendants are pushing for removal under a federal law that allows people charged with crimes while carrying out their official duties to be prosecuted in federal court, even in cases involving state law and state prosecutors.

The others following the same legal path are former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows and three presidential electors who met on Dec. 14, 2020, to cast their votes for Trump after Georgia's presidential election had been certified for Joe Biden.

Among the reasons Clark might want his case tried in federal rather than state court are access to a slightly more Republican jury pool; a denial of the prosecutorial team's home-field advantage in Fulton County Superior Court, where the prosecutors and judges know each other and where the trial will be governed by familiar state, not federal, procedures; and a potentially quicker path to dismissal on the grounds that he is immune from prosecution as a federal officer.

Jones denied Meadows's claim earlier this month, finding that the actions "at the heart of the State's charges against Meadows were taken on behalf of the Trump campaign with the ultimate goal of affecting state election activities and procedures." Meadows has appealed that decision.

The three electors — David Shafer, Shawn Still and Cathy Latham — are due in court for their own evidentiary hearing on Wednesday.

Jones's opinion in the Meadows case could bode poorly for Clark, who was described by former senior Justice Department officials in a hearing of the House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol as "completely incompetent" and guilty of currying favor with then-President Trump to become the next attorney general.

Prosecutors have made the case that Clark was operating far outside of his duties when he became involved in helping Trump reverse his defeat in 2020. They called to the stand Jody Hunt, a former longtime Justice Department official who preceded Clark as head of the civil division.

Hunt, who joined the DOJ in 1999 and also served as a chief of staff to Jeff Sessions when he was attorney general, left the agency in 2020 and was later among a group of attorneys who challenged efforts by the Trump campaign to overturn the 2020 election, including in Georgia.

Hunt repeatedly testified that the civil division did not engage in matters involving election interference or voter fraud. He said if the Justice Department did engage in any investigations or litigation, that it would have been taken up by the agency's criminal or civil rights division.

"It was not the civil division's role," he said.

Hunt, now general counsel at a private college in Alabama, also testified about strict protocols that limit communications between the White House and Justice Department officials, telling the judge it was department policy for the president and any other White House official to communicate only with the attorney general, deputy attorney general and associate attorney general.

The policy was put into place "to avoid situations" where a White House official might ask a Justice Department employee to do something that did not fall in line with their duties, Hunt testified.

Prosecutors also took issue with several aspects of Clark's defense, noting that he had provided little evidence that Trump had instructed him to act. MacDougald, his lawyer, also claimed that Clark had broad authority to enforce federal laws — but prosecutors noted that he did not say what law Clark was enforcing.

MacDougald focused extensively on what he claimed was the impropriety of a state prosecutor targeting internal Justice Department communications. He mentioned a declaration filed on Clark's behalf Saturday by Edwin Meese, who served as attorney general under Ronald Reagan from 1985 to 1988.

With the opening line "I am 91 years old, and of sound mind," Meese argued that the deliberations between a president and a senior Justice Department official are privileged and confidential — and that the prosecution of such behavior amounts to "a major affront to federal supremacy never before seen in the history of our country."

If it is allowed to go forward, Meese added: "then state law enforcement officials could arrest local U.S. attorneys and their assistants while they were deliberating over whether and/or how to approach a possible prosecution of state or local officials."

Donald Wakeford, a member of the Fulton prosecution team, rebutted that administration of elections is the province of state, not federal, government — and Clark had cited no federal laws to support the claim that some had been violated.

Wakeford likened Clark's actions to those of "marshals in the Old West" and accused MacDougald of making only a "vague allusion" that Trump may have asked Clark to act. "There's no evidence of that, either," he said.

When Jones asked Wakeford to respond to MacDougald's claim that the Fulton County district attorney has no authority to prosecute internal Justice Department communications, Wakeford replied that an attempted crime in the state of Georgia is within his office's jurisdiction. Jones appeared to nod vigorously.

Clark suffered an early defeat in his removal efforts when Jones denied his request for an emergency stay that would prevent Fulton County District Attorney Fani T. Willis (D) from proceeding while his bid for federal removal was active.

As Trump faces four criminal indictments, including two focused on his attempts to stay in power after the election, Clark's hearing provided yet another preview of what could come in the months ahead.

Clark's role in the alleged conspiracy to overturn the 2020 results is vividly documented in the federal indictment of Trump.

The indictment identifies Clark only as "Co-Conspirator 4," but it includes details that match existing reporting about Clark's post-election role. It portrays him as a linchpin of plans to bypass the acting attorney general and use the imprimatur of the Justice Department to spread "knowingly false claims of election fraud" and deceitfully substitute legitimate electors with sham alternates supporting Trump.

Clark circumvented department leadership to speak with Trump multiple times in late December and early January, according to the federal indictment.

After the Justice Department officials refused to sign his draft letter, the indictment states, Clark "tried to coerce" them into signing the letter by saying that Trump was offering to make him acting attorney general. Clark accepted that offer on Jan. 3, 2021, according to the indictment.

The machinations led to a dramatic showdown in the Oval Office on the evening of Jan. 3, when Trump balked, retreating from his plan to promote Clark, after being warned that Justice Department leaders and White House lawyers would resign en masse.

Richard Donoghue, who was acting deputy attorney general at the time, testified before the House Jan. 6 committee that he was unequivocal about his opposition to Clark becoming attorney general when Trump inquired about it.

"Suppose I do this. Suppose I replace him, Jeff Rosen, with him, Jeff Clark, what would you do?" Donoghue recalled Trump asking him. "And I said, 'Mr. President, we resign immediately. I'm not working one minute for this guy who I just declared was completely incompetent.'"

Trump then wavered about appointing Clark attorney general. The promotion never happened.

In the Georgia indictment, Clark is also described as taking a call on Jan. 2, 2021, from Scott G. Hall, another co-defendant in the case and a longtime bail bondsman from the Atlanta area who actively chased claims of election fraud on Trump's behalf in the weeks following the 2020 election. Hall and Clark spoke for 63 minutes, according to the indictment, and the call appeared to carry weight. Clark would later cite the conversation as he sought to use Justice Department authority to delegitimize the Georgia election, according to testimony and notes from congressional investigators.

In his removal case, Clark claimed that to cite the phone call as an act in furtherance of a conspiracy, as Willis does in the Georgia indictment, is a flagrant violation of Clark's First Amendment speech protections. He also said it violates Hall's First Amendment right to petition government "for redress of grievances."

The call did not come up at Monday's hearing.



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

President Biden's son Hunter, seen in July, was indicted last week on gun charges, and he may face another indictment over alleged tax crimes two IRS agents said they found in reviewing his finances.

Hunter Biden files suit against IRS, saying disclosures violated privacy

President's son accuses agents of revealing his personal tax information

BY DEVLIN BARRETT

President Biden's son Hunter filed a lawsuit Monday against the Internal Revenue Service, saying that when agents investigating him told Congress and news reporters about their concerns that the case was not being managed properly, they violated his privacy rights as a taxpayer.

The lawsuit comes as the younger Biden faces criminal charges and escalating legal battles, a failed plea deal and a nearly five-year investigation into his finances, taxes and a gun purchase.

Hunter Biden's lawsuit says that while he has "all the same responsibilities as any other American citizen," he also "has no fewer or lesser rights than any other American citizen, and no government agency or government agent has free rein to violate his rights simply because of who he is."

Biden charges in the lawsuit that when IRS supervisory agent Gary Shapley and another agent went to Congress and news organizations complaining of alleged mishandling of the investigation by Justice Department officials, they disclosed information about the probe, and about Biden's taxes, that the law aims to keep secret.

"This assault on Mr. Biden's rights involved the public disclosure of his confidential tax information during more than 20 nationally televised and non-congressionally sanctioned interviews and numerous public statements," the lawsuit charges.

The disclosures included "detailed allegations regarding the specific tax years under investigation, the amounts of deductions, the nature of those deductions, and allegations of liability regarding specific tax years and the amount thereof, that could only be known to them based on a review of the physical tax returns themselves," the lawsuit contends.

IRS officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Lawyers for Shapley, one of the two IRS agents who came forward, called the Biden lawsuit "another frivolous smear" and said they followed the rules to make protected disclosures.

Neither Shapley nor his legal team has ever released "any confidential taxpayer information except through whistleblower disclosures authorized by statute. Once Congress released that testimony, like every American citizen, he has a right to discuss that public information," the lawyers said in a written statement.

In recent months, Hunter Biden's legal team has fired legal salvos at those who have accused him of committing crimes and tried to implicate his father in the alleged wrongdoing.

The IRS lawsuit is Biden's most aggressive move yet on that front, but it also comes as he is besieged by legal issues.

He was indicted last week on gun charges, which were supposed to be resolved in a diversion agreement over the summer. The diversion deal and a related agreement to plead guilty to misdemeanor tax charges fell apart when the two sides could not agree on whether such a deal gave Biden immunity from additional possible criminal charges from the same period.

Special counsel David Weiss might soon file an indictment against Hunter Biden in another federal court — potentially in California — over alleged tax crimes that the agents say they found in reviewing his finances from 2014 to 2019.

Also Monday, Biden's lawyer Abbe Lowell sent an angry letter to Rep. Jason T. Smith (R-Mo.), arguing that one of the improper disclosures about his client's taxes in 2018 does not account for what Hunter Biden eventually paid.

Biden previously paid more than $900,000 to the IRS as he tried to resolve the investigation, Lowell said. Biden's lawyers and accountants believe he "overstated certain items of taxable income" for that year and is now, in fact, owed a refund.

"Mr. Biden will take all necessary steps to secure the refund of any and all overpayments of tax," Lowell wrote.

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18 SEPTEMBER 2023

As Australian Parliamentarians, in support of our colleagues' delegation to the United States in September 2023, we are resolutely of the view that the prosecution and incarceration of the Australian citizen Julian Assange must end.

Together with a large and growing number of Australians we believe it is wrong in principle for Mr. Assange to be pursued under the Espionage Act (1917), and that it was a political decision to bring the prosecution in the first place. In any case, this matter has dragged on for over a decade and it is wrong for Mr. Assange to be further persecuted and denied his liberty when one considers the duration and circumstances of the detention he has already suffered. It serves no purpose, it is unjust, and we say clearly - as friends should always be honest with friends - that the prolonged pursuit of Mr. Assange wears away at the substantial foundation of regard and respect that Australians have for the justice system of the United States of America.

We agree entirely with the position expressed by the Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese who said in the House of Representatives on 22 May 2023 that "enough is enough when it comes to the ongoing incarceration of Julian Assange and that nothing is served from the ongoing incarceration of Julian Assange." We welcome the recently expressed agreement on this point from the Leader of the Opposition, and we make clear that the bipartisan leadership support for this position is matched by the wide cross-party and independent support within the Australian Parliament itself, which in turn reflects the strongly held views of the Australian community.

Let there be no doubt that if Julian Assange is removed from the United Kingdom to the United States there will a sharp and sustained outcry in Australia.

We note with gratitude the considerable support in the United States for an end to the legal pursuit of Mr. Assange from members of Congress, human rights advocates, academics, and civil society, and from within the US media in defence of free speech and independent journalism. On that basis we ask Congresspeople, members of the press, and other relevant civil society stakeholders in the United States to speak up now in supporting an end to the prosecution and detention of Julian Assange.

We believe the right and best course of action would be for the United States' Department of Justice to cease its pursuit and prosecution of Julian Assange. Alternatively, a decision to simply abandon the extradition proceedings would have the sensible, just, and compassionate effect of allowing Mr. Assange to go free from a prolonged and harsh period of high-security detention. It is well and truly time for this matter to end, and for Julian Assange to return home.

Yours sincerely,

The co-convenors of the Bring Julian Assange Home Parliamentary Group:

Andrew Wilkie MP
Independent Federal Member for Clark

Josh Wilson MP
Labor Federal Member of Fremantle

Bridget Archer MP
Liberal Federal Member for Bass

David Shoebridge
Greens Senator for New South Wales

The undersigned members of the Australian Parliament:

Dai Le MP – Member for Fowler
Kylea Tink MP – Member for North Sydney
Senator Nick McKim – Senator for Tasmania
Steve Georganas MP – Member for Adelaide
Senator Barbara Pocock – Senator for South Australia
Senator Peter Whish-Wilson – Senator for Tasmania
Dr Mike Freelander MP – Member for Macarthur
Rebekha Sharkie MP – Member for Mayo
Senator Jordan Steele-John – Senator for Western Australia
Julian Hill MP – Member for Bruce
Colin Boyce MP – Member for Flynn
Brian Mitchell MP – Member for Lyons
Senator Alex Antic – Senator for South Australia
Senator Gerard Rennick – Senator for Queensland
Senator Ralph Babet – Senator for Victoria
Dr Sophie Scamps MP – Member for Mackellar
Dr Helen Haines MP – Member for Indi
Senator the Hon Matt Canavan – Senator for Queensland
The Hon Melissa Price MP – Member for Durack
Zali Steggall OAM MP – Member for Warringah
Peter Khalil MP – Member for Wills
Susan Templeman MP – Member for Macquarie
Allegra Spender MP – Member for Wentworth
Zaneta Mascarenhas MP – Member for Swan
Stephen Bates MP – Member for Brisbane
Zoe Daniel MP – Member for Goldstein
Elizabeth Watson-Brown MP – Member for Ryan
Dr Monique Ryan MP – Member for Kooyong
The Hon Warren Entsch MP – Member for Leichhardt
Senator Dorinda Cox – Senator for Western Australia
Kate Chaney MP – Member for Curtin
Jerome Laxale MP – Member for Bennelong
Dr Michelle Ananda-Rajah MP – Member for Higgins
Rick Wilson MP – Member for O'Connor
Senator Janet Rice – Senator for Victoria
Senator Larissa Waters – Senator for Queensland
Louise Miller-Frost MP – Member for Boothby
Fiona Phillips MP – Member for Gilmore
Senator Lidia Thorpe – Senator for Victoria
Adam Bandt MP – Leader of the Australian Greens, Member for Melbourne
Senator David Pocock – Senator for Australian Capital Territory
Llew O'Brien MP – Member for Wide Bay
Maria Vamvakinou MP – Member for Calwell
Alicia Payne MP – Member for Canberra
Sam Lim MP – Member for Tangney
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young – Senator for South Australia
The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP – Member for New England
Senator Dr Mehreen Faruqi – Senator for New South Wales
Senator Jacqui Lambie – Senator for Tasmania
Senator Penny Allman-Payne – Senator for Queensland
The Hon Scott Buchholz MP – Member for Wright
Senator Louise Pratt – Senator for Western Australia
The Hon Shayne Newman MP – Member for Blair
Libby Coker MP – Member for Corangamite
Tony Zappia MP – Member for Makin
Max Chandler-Mather MP – Member for Griffith
Senator Malcolm Roberts – Senator for Queensland
The Hon Luke Howarth MP – Member for Petrie
Senator Andrew Bragg – Senator for New South Wales
The Hon David Gillespie MP – Member for Lyne

W HOLLAND STIFTUNG

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ELECTION 2024

Anxiety ripples through Democratic Party over Biden's age

BIDEN FROM A1

Biden's allies are frustrated by the hand-wringing from an anxious faction of the party, and even as campaign officials point to the president's record of defying skeptics, they are strategizing internally about how to best combat the unmistakable nervousness.

Such "Washington whispers" have become far too common among "bed-wetting" Democrats, said Jim Messina, who ran Barack Obama's 2012 campaign and recently put together a 24-slide deck aiming to calm the jitters, which he sent to prominent Democratic officeholders.

"I'm not saying that this is going to be easy and he's fine," Messina said in an interview. "Look, America is split right down the middle. Both parties are going to get 46 percent, and we're fighting over the rest."

But he said Biden is in a much stronger position than Trump and encouraged Democrats to stop their public and private agonizing. He said one senator texted him immediately after receiving his presentation, which included details on Biden's string of early endorsements by key groups, the impact of cooling inflation and the popularity of many of the president's achievements.

"I'm going to stop bed-wetting now," the senator wrote.

But interviews with more than 30 lawmakers, strategists, activists and other Democrats show that the uncertainty persists.

Many Democrats express steadfast support for the president's running for a second term, and no major figure has risen to challenge him in a primary. Several party leaders predicted that even voters who voice ambivalence about Biden will ultimately be animated to vote against the Republican choice, especially if that choice is Trump.

But few offered confident assessments that Biden's stubbornly low approval ratings would rebound before next year, and many conceded that one of the president's most significant challenges is one he has no control over: his age. Supporters and critics alike suggested that Biden's prospects may hinge on whether he can find a way to overcome a persistent and growing feeling in the electorate that his advanced age is his defining characteristic.

For now, recent polls show Biden running even with Trump, who leads the Republican field by a wide margin.

An August survey from Associated Press/NORC found that 77 percent of Americans, including 69 percent of Democrats, thought Biden was too old to be effective for another four-year term. When asked what word came to mind when they thought of Biden, more than a quarter of respondents mentioned age, with another 15 percent using words like "slow" or "confused."

Other polls are also flashing warning signs for Democrats. A CNN/SSRS survey found that Biden's approval rating was mired at 39 percent, with nearly three-quarters of respondents saying they were concerned about his age. The poll also found that most Democrats want the party to nominate a different presidential candidate.



BILL O'LEARY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Persistent concerns over President Biden's age come amid recent polls showing that he's neck-and-neck with former president Donald Trump in the 2024 race. Many in the party continue to voice confidence in Biden, 80, and they note that Trump is not much younger at 77.

Polling has also suggested that Biden's support among non-White voters is slipping, that a growing number of voters prefer age limits for public service and that Americans continue to feel unease about the economy.

Perhaps most troubling for Democrats, several recent surveys have found Biden running neck-and-neck with Trump — even though Trump, who is three years younger than Biden, faces four criminal indictments.

Biden's campaign shrugs off such concerns, casting them as well-worn examples of second-guessing by people who have previously questioned the president, only to be surprised by his victories.

"Coming off the president's historic midterm performance, President Biden is delivering results, his agenda is popular with the American people, and we are mobilizing our winning coalition of voters well ahead of next year's general election," said Biden campaign spokesman Kevin Munoz. "Next year's election will be a stark choice between President Biden and the extreme, unpopular MAGA agenda. We'll win in 2024 by putting our heads down and doing the work, not by fretting about polls."

White House officials note that Obama had similarly low approval ratings in 2011 before cruising to reelection the following year. They have also pointed to special elections this year in which Democrats have outperformed expectations, saying the abortion issue that helped propel the party continues to animate voters.

To support a president who often answers age questions by saying, "Watch me," aides have often spoken publicly of his stamina and his grueling schedule during overseas trips. Biden's campaign has launched an early $25 million ad campaign that includes television spots showing the president looking energetic and brisk during a nearly 40-hour round-trip journey to a Ukrainian war zone.

But while Biden's doctor in February described him as "healthy," "vigorous" and mentally sharp, voters who see him — or see selective video clips of him shared online by his foes — have often come away with a different assessment.

Biden's gait can be stiff, and his physical and verbal stumbles have at times given his critics material. After a Sept. 10 news conference in Vietnam, several conservative outlets noted that he seemed fatigued and ended the event by saying he was ready to go to bed. (His aides point out that the 11-hour time difference could have been challenging for anyone.)

While Trump is also at an advanced age and regularly makes his own erratic comments, polls show that voters are less concerned about his stamina and acuity, whether because of his brash personality or because his legal problems eclipse other concerns.

"I would always choose 'I'm going to bed' over 'I'm going to jail,' " said Sen. John Fetterman (D-Pa.), referring to the multiple criminal indictments against Trump.

Nikki Fried, chairwoman of the Florida Democratic Party, said there is no evidence age has hindered what Biden has been able to accomplish in office.

"There's been an overhyping of this conversation, with social media and 24-hour news cycles," Fried said, "as opposed to pointing to specific issues or specific policies that have not been able to be implemented or followed through on."

But one House Democrat, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to offer a candid assessment of Biden's candidacy, said he has heard concerns among fellow members as well as major Democratic donors about whether the president can sustain a grueling campaign and another four years in office.

"You don't want to do anything to undercut the person who is going to be your nominee," the lawmaker said. "At the same time, these concerns are very real."

Even some Democrats who fully back Biden's reelection do not always discuss his bid in inspirational terms. Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) compared concerns about the president's age to a broken leg he himself sustained after being knocked down at a parade.

"I'm concerned about polls, certainly. I'm not dismissive," Blumenthal said. "But I guess I compare it to, I just had a broken leg. Was I concerned? Yeah, I was really concerned about having a broken leg. I had to take care of it. And now," the 77-year-old said as he began to jog in place, "I'm fine. Full strength."

At the same time, Biden's age has put an even more glaring spotlight on Harris, who would be a leading contender should Biden step aside and would replace him if he cannot complete a second term.

Some Democrats question Harris's political strength, and on occasion lawmakers have struggled to defend her. Former house speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) gave a less-than-enthusiastic answer when asked by CNN last week whether Harris is the best choice to be Biden's running mate in 2024. "He thinks so," she said. "And that's what matters."

Asked if she agreed with that assessment, Pelosi called Harris "politically astute."

Like Pelosi, Rep. Jamie B. Raskin (D-Md.) did not answer directly when asked on CNN whether Harris is the best running mate for Biden. He and Pelosi later took to social media to offer more enthusiastic endorsements of Harris, but their initial comments were noted by the vice president's allies and foes alike.

In part to rebut such concerns, Harris's team posted images of the vice president being warmly greeted by thousands of enthusiastic students during a college tour last week.

> *"I would always choose 'I'm going to bed' over 'I'm going to jail.'"*
>
> **Sen. John Fetterman (D-Pa.),** referring to the multiple criminal indictments against Donald Trump

"Wild. I heard that she was unpopular," Harris's press secretary Kirsten Allen wrote on X, formerly known on Twitter, on Friday, sharing images of a packed auditorium of North Carolina A&T University students waiting to see the vice president.

Questions about the 2024 Democratic ticket arose even before Biden was sworn in. The president's age, relatively low approval ratings and a campaign pledge to be a "transitional" figure have long raised questions about whether he would — or should — seek a second term.

Those questions subsided after unexpected Democratic successes in the midterm elections. But they have intensified in recent weeks, as Democrats realize that the window for making any change is rapidly closing — just as polls show voters increasingly wary about their current choice.

One Democratic lawmaker, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss a sensitive matter, raised the prospect that Biden could secure the nomination, then have to drop out for health reasons. "The worst-case scenario is we get past the nominating process with President Biden as the nominee, and then he's no longer able to continue on as the nominee," the lawmaker said. "That's the nightmare scenario for Democrats."

For some in Biden's circle, Democrats' existential fear of Trump is their best guarantee that Democrats will rally around the president. They have been seeking to emphasize contrasts between Biden and his predecessor.

In recent speeches, Biden has been more forceful in criticizing Trump's economic record. "Great real estate builder, the former president," Biden said sarcastically last Thursday. "He didn't build a damn thing."

One Democratic leader in a battleground state, speaking on the condition of anonymity to candidly discuss the party's prospects, said Democrats might be driven to the ballot box as a way to protest Trump, but might not wait in line for hours at polling places out of enthusiasm for Biden.

"Folks are not energized right now," the person said.

Rep. Maxwell Frost (D-Fla.), who at 26 is the youngest member of Congress, said Biden's age is a bigger issue with older voters, while younger people are more focused on issues like climate change and gun violence.

"You're talking about a generation that was really excited for Bernie Sanders, who is also very old," Frost said.

But John Paul Mejia, a college student and spokesman for Sunrise Movement, a youth-led political organization advocating on climate change, said Biden seems older than Sanders because he has not fully embraced the progressive policies supported by Generation Z.

"Biden has an opportunity to overcome the optical concerns," Mejia said. "I think he could be younger if he wants."

Scott Clement contributed to this report.

Group backing Biden reelection launches Latino outreach effort in 3 states

Deep-pocketed nonprofit to run early ads, echoing campaign strategy

BY MICHAEL SCHERER

The ordained big-money outside group supporting President Biden's reelection has hired two veterans of his 2020 campaign to lead a new Latino advertising effort, as it blankets swing states with early television spots that echo the Biden campaign's own fall television strategy.

Future Forward USA Action, a nonprofit group with an associated super PAC closely tied to White House aides, will launch new ads in Nevada, Arizona and Pennsylvania this month as part of a campaign helmed by Cristóbal Alex, a former senior adviser to Biden's 2020 campaign, and Pili Tobar, the 2020 campaign's director of coalitions.

The group, which can raise money in unlimited amounts from wealthy Biden supporters, plans to spend more than $1 million on the first spots, in English and Spanish versions, that focus on Biden's bipartisan approach and policy accomplishments.

That will come on top of the $14 million in ads supporting Biden that the group has placed this month, according to the media tracking firm Ad Analytics. The group has become the third-largest advertising spender in the presidential race so far, behind groups focused on the Republican nomination fight for former president Donald Trump, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott.

"Latinos are a key part of the governing coalition in the Biden-Harris administration," Alex, who founded the Latino Victory Fund and later worked in the Biden White House, said in a statement. "Our program will reach these Latinos where they are, discuss the issues that matter to the Latino community, and focus on President Biden delivering for hard-working people."

The current Future Forward effort is being paid for through a nonprofit vehicle that does not disclose its donors. But that is expected to change over the coming year as the group shifts to spending through a PAC, which can expressly advocate for Biden's election and the defeat of his Republican opponents.

Future Forward arrived as a force in politics in September 2020 and became the third-largest funder of advertising in the 2020 presidential general election, with $118 million in spending, behind only the campaigns of Biden and Donald Trump, according to Ad Analytics. Top donors included Facebook cofounder Dustin Moskovitz, Twilio founder Jeff Lawson and his wife, Erica, and executives with the now-defunct crypto firm FTX. The group is run by Chauncey McLean, a veteran of the 2012 Obama reelection campaign.

Biden's top White House political advisers, Anita Dunn and Jen O'Malley Dillon, have publicly signaled to donors that the president supports Future Forward's efforts this year, while other outside groups like American Bridge and Priorities USA are also expected to play roles supporting Biden with separate advertising efforts. Katie Petrelius, who was finance director for Biden's 2020 campaign, recently joined Future Forward to help raise money for the group.

> *"The Latino outreach that the group is going to be doing is part and parcel of what Joe Biden has always fought for."*
>
> **Tom Perez,** a senior White House adviser to President Biden

"The Latino outreach that the group is going to be doing is part and parcel of what Joe Biden has always fought for," said Tom Perez, another senior White House adviser to Biden and former chair of the Democratic National Committee. "Democracy is on the ballot for everyone. The demonization of so many immigrants, including but not limited to Latino immigrants, is a huge part of the hard-right agenda."

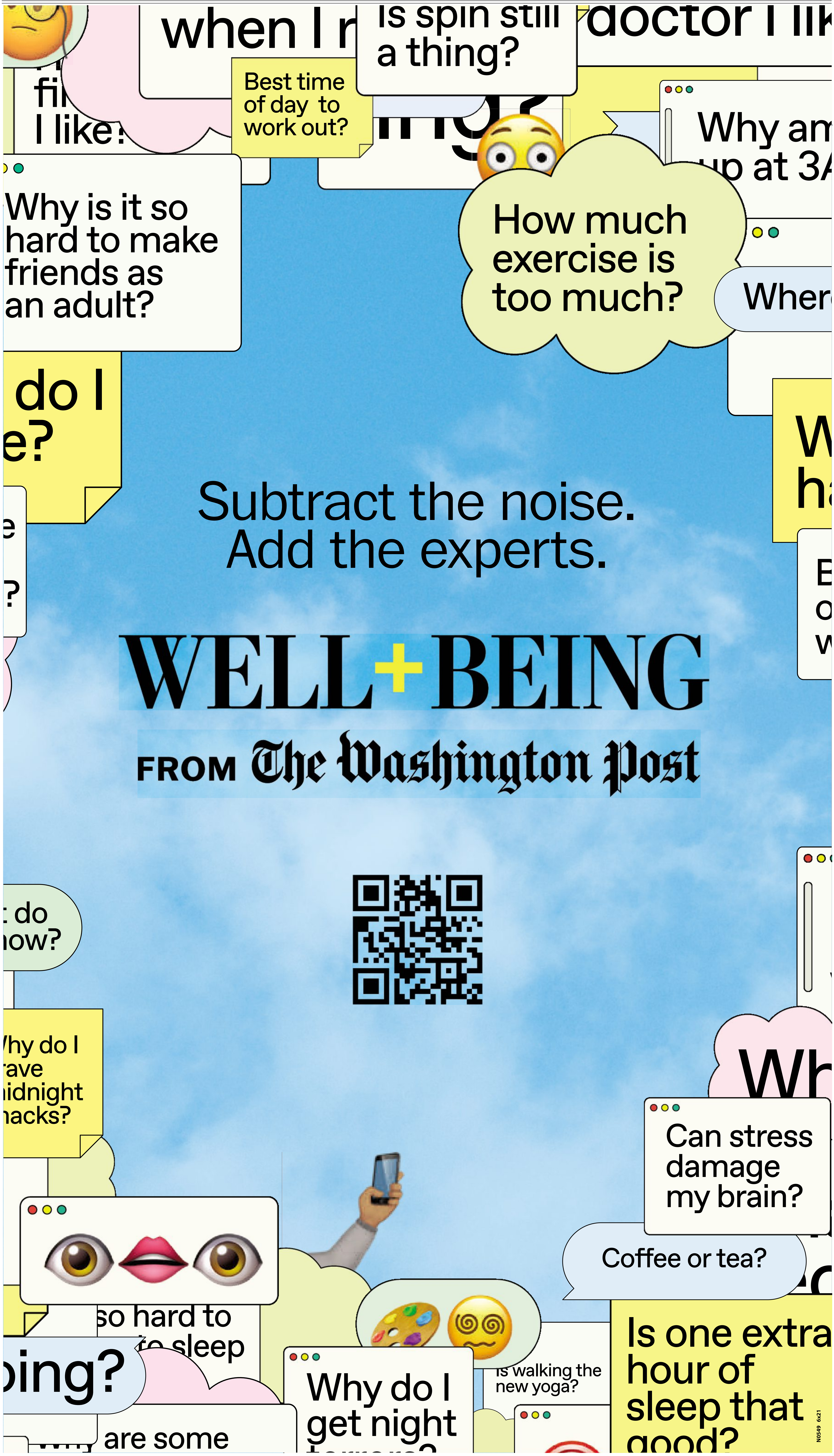
The Future Forward spending includes ads now running in swing states with testimonials from employers and workers about how Biden's presidency is bringing home manufacturing and lifting the economy. The content and style of the ads closely mirror a concurrent $25 million effort by the Biden campaign, with support from the Democratic National Committee.

The goal, say officials involved in the latter effort, is to take advantage of the Republican focus on the GOP's nomination fight by advertising unopposed in swing states. The ads are focused on casting Biden as an active and vibrant leader — an image often missing from press coverage — while educating voters about the details of his legislative accomplishments.

The Spanish-language Future Forward Latino-focused ad will run in Pennsylvania, while the English version will run in Nevada and Arizona.

The group tends to produce and test about 10 different ads for every spot it releases, according to a person involved in the effort who was not authorized to speak publicly. About 26 different variations of other Future Forward ads have been placed on the airwaves so far this month, according to Ad Analytics.

"Whether it's in English, Spanish, or Spanglish, we'll be communicating about the Biden administration's accomplishments," Tobar said.



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THE WORLD



PHOTOS BY MARY GELMAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

In time of war, Russia turns up aggression on transgender citizens





TOP: Yan Dvorkin in a court hearing. The transgender man's 10-year-old adopted child was taken from him and a guardian appointed. BOTTOM: An underground drawing meeting for transgender and nonbinary people organized by Center T in St. Petersburg. Some people at the meeting made bright, colorful drawings, while others opted for monochrome shades depicting dark images. The meeting allows transgender Russians to get together out of the reach of the country's repressive anti-trans laws.

BY ROBYN DIXON

When Russian authorities took away Yan Dvorkin's 10-year-old adopted son last spring, there was nothing he could do but shout in frustration. His crime? He was a transgender, nonbinary person, married to a man.

The official from child services had denounced him to prosecutors because he was open about his gender identity on social media — a crime in Russia for which he was convicted and then ordered to give up the son he adopted five years ago.

"It was so mean and low and hypocritical," said Dvorkin, who uses masculine pronouns. "I was so angry. I said, 'Do you understand that because of you, my child cannot live in his own family?' It was like talking to a wall."

The family had fallen afoul of one of Russian President Vladimir Putin's most vehement obsessions, his rejection of what he sees as Western "degradation and degeneration," in particular transgender people, leading to a raft of repressive laws and, according to LGBTQ+ activists, rising street violence against transgender people.

Putin has framed the Ukraine invasion as a war against "Satanists," liberal Western values, and "parent number one and parent number two." His venom is echoed by everyone from state television propagandists to politicians and, as the war has ground on, Russia has witnessed increasingly harsh measures against these groups.

In July, Putin signed an astonishingly repressive law dissolving transgender people's marriages, barring them from adopting children and preventing them from changing their gender in state documents. Hormone treatments and surgical interventions are also forbidden, as is the concept of having a nonbinary identity.

Dvorkin's son is now living with a new guardian — a family friend — and he can still see him.

Dvorkin was a particularly high-profile target for the state. The psychologist launched Center T, a support group and website for transgender people. The organization, which relies on donations to operate, has been declared a "foreign agent," like so many other NGOs disliked by the government.

In August, its website — which offers advice, practical support and a social network for transgender people — was shut down by a Russian court. Dvorkin fears he may be prosecuted and jailed for continuing to help desperate young transgender people, because it is a crime to post information about queer identity.

"About a year and a half ago, the president and other officials started talking very often about transgender people in the context of their fight against Western values," Dvorkin said. "They're promoting xenophobia and directing people's hatred at us."

"This is a typical practice of a totalitarian regime. You take a group, vulnerable people in society, and you turn them into outcasts, and you direct all the disappointment and dissatisfaction about the lack of development or lack of success in the war and all of society's hatred and negative feelings against that group."

Pyotr Tolstoy, a lawmaker from Putin's United Russia party and one of the anti-transgender law's sponsors, said in a State Duma debate, without evidence, that men are pretending to be transgender women to avoid fighting in Ukraine, and talked about a huge conspiracy involving a "Western transgender industry trying to penetrate our nation" for their "multibillion-dollar business."

The law's impact is harshest for those who have not yet changed their gender in legal documents or still need medical interventions. Myriad daily actions — renting an apartment or getting a job — are nightmarish when a person's passport or identity document differs from their gender identity and appearance.

Nikita, a transgender Moscow man, had to register with the military recruitment office in 2021 to get a passport for foreign travel, but it rejected documents from a Russian medical panel attesting to his transgender status.

"There's going to be a war soon," a military psychiatrist told him, warning that he could be treated as a draft dodger and jailed. The only way to get a military exemption was via a two-week compulsory psychiatric confinement and assessment with no smartphone or outside contact, during which the veracity of his identity would be evaluated.

"I'm terrified because of the possibility that I could be drafted, even if it's a small one. In the worst-case scenario, they could send me to the front, for sure. If they draft me in the army, that would mean death for me."

Nikita became aware of his sexual orientation at 14, and of his transgender identity about a year later.

"I grew up in a very conservative, homophobic family. There were always jokes about these people. You would hear derogatory slang words and a constant reminder that marriage was only possible between a man and a woman." He felt suicidal as a teenager, but his connection with transgender organizations saved him. At 16, he came out to his parents.

Two years later, he fled his home after his mother, in one of their many quarrels, hit him with a wooden chair.

"It was very traumatic. I was homeless, without any money, and I lived in an LGBT shelter for three or four months," he recalled.

Center T conducted a recent 24-hour online survey on violence and discrimination suffered by transgender people and got more than 300 responses.

"Reading through these 300 responses I felt as if I was living in the medieval ages or even prehistoric times, not in a civilized country," Dvorkin said. "There were trans guys raped by their fathers, to make a real girl out of them. There were parents who would beat them, if they found the wrong clothes, from their point of view, and parents who would take them to psychiatric units and have them locked up."

Al, a Center T activist who spoke on the condition that their last name not be used to protect their safety, runs an underground support center in St. Petersburg for trans people, with tea and coffee in the neat, sunny kitchen. It features two affectionate cats, lounges to relax, and accommodation. Al is always careful to keep the street entrance to the apartment block locked.

Activists at the center take dozens of calls daily and arrange transport for homeless transgender people arriving in the city, many evicted from their families, as well as guides for those who do not know their way around. Sometimes they even provide emergency funds.

In another part of the city, an underground art group for transgender people organized by Center T met on a warm afternoon last month, in an atmosphere so exuberant that the outside world of politicians whipping up anti-transgender sentiment seemed far away for a few hours.

Some made bright, colorful drawings, while others opted for monochrome shades depicting dark images. In the corner, a group carefully braided one another's hair.

A tall woman, Zhenya, swept into the room to torrents of congratulations, waving the new passport she had just received marked with her female gender.

Others told stories of family rejection, suicidal feelings, isolation and confusion. They expressed fears about buying illegal hormones or accessing surgical interventions and dreamed of leaving Russia.

For many, the weekly art meetings are their most important social connection and support, and for some, help overcome suicidal feelings amid the demonization of transgender people.

Outside their tranquil underground space, politicians are closing their support organizations and passing stringent new laws attacking their very identity.

"The majority of people are very conservative and they don't understand anything about transgender people and are against them. So the party of power adopted this law to gain popularity and to hang on to power as long as possible," Yulia Alyoshina, a transgender politician who planned to run for office until the new law forced her to drop out. "This will create more hatred in society."

She said transgender people who could afford it would emigrate or go overseas for medical treatment. But most would not be able to and would be at risk of substance abuse, self-harm or suicide. "The law normalizes an insulting attitude to transgender people, as if they are inferior. What can be more cruel than banning your right to medical help?"

Vladimir Komov, a lawyer with Russian LGBTQ+ legal rights group, DELO LGBT, which handles 300 legal consultations per month, said new homophobic and transphobic groups have been springing up online, with cases of violence against transgender people rising.

Nearly a third of the cases the group takes to court involve violent assaults against clients, yet courts rarely classify these as hate crimes, he said.

DELO LGBT lawyers representing Center T at hearings in July over its closure, were attacked with pepper spray outside the court.

"We were getting into the taxi, and a young guy with pepper spray and his face covered with a mask jumped out like a bolt from the blue and sprayed one of our expert witnesses directly in the face," said DELO LGBT lawyer Robert Lebedev, a transgender man. "I heard the people he attacked screaming with pain, and then he ran off. I was angry because the police took ages to arrive — around three or four hours — and then they didn't want to investigate." Seven people were affected by the attack.

Initially, the persecution of LGBTQ+ people was framed as a matter of protecting children, said Komov, one of the lawyers, but that has changed in recent times.

"Now it is framed at state level — to protect the security of the state, to fight against extremism," Komov said. "Since the new law, people believe they have a right to harass LGBT people, that they're doing what Putin told them to do, and they're following government policy. Now it's because they're queer people and the government hates them."

Dvorkin started Center T three years ago, because discrimination against transgender people at the time was "terrible."

"But at the time we did not even know what terrible is," he said.

DIGEST

LIBYA

U.N. warns dirty water could spread disease

Officials warned Monday that a disease outbreak in Libya's northeast, where floods have killed thousands of people, could create "a second devastating crisis" as diarrhea spreads among those who drank contaminated water.

In a statement, the United Nations Support Mission in Libya said it was particularly concerned about water contamination and the lack of sanitation after two dams collapsed during Mediterranean storm Daniel, sending a wall of water gushing through the eastern city of Derna on Sept. 11.

The number of dead is still unknown, but the United Nations said late Saturday that World Health Organization teams working with Libyan officials had confirmed that 3,958 bodies have been recovered and identified, and said more than 9,000 people are still missing.

On Saturday, Libya's general prosecutor, al-Sediq al-Sour, opened an investigation into the collapse of the two dams, built in the 1970s, as well as the allocation of maintenance funds. Derna's mayor, Abdel-Moneim al-Gaithi, was suspended pending an investigation into the disaster.

Footage posted online Monday showed hundreds of Libyan men gathered outside, and atop, a mosque in Derna before a man read a list of demands at the building's entrance. The man called on Libyan authorities to expedite their investigation into the disaster, for the United Nations to set up an office in Derna, for urgent reconstruction of the city and compensation for those affected by the flood. After he finished, the hundreds gathered began chanting: "Libya, Libya, Libya."

— Associated Press

ITALY

Tougher measures aim to deter migrants

The Italian government, struggling with a surge in arriving migrants, on Monday passed measures to lengthen the time they can be detained and ensure more people who have no legal right to stay are repatriated, government officials said.

The move came after almost 10,000 migrants reached the southern Italian island of Lampedusa last week.

Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, who won office last year vowing to curb illegal immigration, said at the start of a cabinet meeting on the situation that migrants awaiting repatriation should be detained for an initial six months, extendible to up to 18, up from three months now.

Government officials said the cabinet approved that measure shortly afterward, as well as the creation of more detention centers in remote areas. Meloni said Italy needed to increase the capacity of such facilities as they had been weakened by "years of immigrationist policies."

— Reuters

ETHIOPIA

War crimes continue, U.N. rights experts say

U.N.-backed human rights experts say war crimes continue in Ethiopia despite a peace deal signed nearly a year ago to end a devastating conflict that has also engulfed the country's Tigray region. The violence has left at least 10,000 people affected by rape and other sexual violence — mostly women and girls.

The violence erupted in November 2020, centering largely — though not exclusively — on the northern Tigray region, which for months was shut off from the outside world. The experts' report, published Monday, cites atrocities by all sides in the war, including mass killings, rape, starvation and destruction of schools and medical facilities.

Mohamed Chande Othman, chairman of the international commission of human rights experts on Ethiopia, said the situation remains "extremely grave" despite a peace accord signed in November. "While the signing of the agreement may have mostly silenced the guns, it has not resolved the conflict in the north of the country," he said.

— Associated Press

Human rights in Russia have 'significantly deteriorated,' report says: A U.N. special rapporteur said in a report the human rights situation in Russia had "significantly deteriorated" since the Ukraine invasion, with Moscow having "severely curtailed" freedoms of association and peaceful assembly, both online and offline and undermined judicial independence. The report, presented by Special Rapporteur Mariana Katzarova to the U.N. Human Rights Council, documented legislative restrictions passed recently that are "being used to muzzle civil society and punish human rights activists and others for their anti-war stance."

20 killed in South Africa crash: A head-on collision between a truck and a bus ferrying workers to a mine in South Africa's northern Limpopo province left 20 people dead, authorities said Monday. Construction company Murray & Roberts Cementation said 17 of its workers, who were being transported to the Venetia mine in Musina close to the Zimbabwe border, died in the crash Sunday.

— From staff reports and news services



SUSAN WALSH/AP

Carrying President Biden, Marine One arrives at the Wall Street landing zone Sunday ahead of the start of the U.N. General Assembly meetings this week in New York.

Biden faces a tough sell at U.N. on extending global support for Ukraine

BY JOHN HUDSON

NEW YORK — President Biden has a clear agenda for this week's annual meeting of world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly here in New York: Maintain robust global support for Ukraine.

But executing on that will be difficult — particularly this year.

Ukrainian officials had hoped to ride into New York this week touting major gains in their summer counteroffensive, but Russia's entrenched forces have stymied efforts to achieve a major breakthrough, and both sides continue to sustain heavy casualties.

The conflict's toll on food and energy prices has accelerated calls in the developing world for a negotiated settlement. And support among the American public has been slipping as a segment of the Republican Party criticizes the war effort's estimated $73 billion price tag.

But Biden, who is due to address the assembly Tuesday, will be aided by the conflict's most charismatic voice: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who also will visit New York to raise awareness about Russian atrocities and emphasize how the Kremlin's invasion violates the United Nations' most sacred principle of sovereignty of borders — a cause he hopes will unite all countries fearful of coercion by a bigger neighbor.

"President Biden looks forward to hearing President Zelensky's perspective on all of this and to reaffirm for the world and for the United States, for the American people, his commitment to continuing to lead the world in supporting Ukraine," White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan said Friday, in a preview of Biden's activities for the week.

A significant arrow in Biden's quiver is the relatively poor attendance by America's main adversaries at the gathering. Russian President Vladimir Putin, facing an arrest warrant from the International Criminal Court, will not fly to New York and neither will Chinese President Xi Jinping, nor his top diplomat, Wang Yi.

The gathering, known colloquially as the Super Bowl of global diplomacy, is one of the best opportunities for developing countries that don't get invited to meetings of wealthy nations such as the Group of Seven to voice their concerns about world affairs. The vacancies will offer Biden and Zelensky the chance to dominate the agenda and lend a sympathetic ear to the leaders of less wealthy nations in Africa, Asia and Latin America, a region often called the Global South.

Key to achieving that will be Biden's planned meeting Wednesday with Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, a prominent champion of the Global South who has called for peace talks in Ukraine and accused the West of prolonging the conflict by providing weapons and military equipment to Kyiv. "The United States needs to stop encouraging war and start talking about peace," Lula said in the spring.

Sullivan has made clear that the United States will continue providing military support to Ukraine and discourage what it views as premature calls for peace talks — even as the battle lines in Ukraine harden and it appears less likely that Kyiv's forces will sever Russia's land bridge to Crimea, a key Russian military transit route.

"Our job from our perspective is to provide Ukraine with the tools it needs to be in the best possible position on the battlefield, so that it can be in the best possible position at the negotiating table," Sullivan said.

The U.S. intelligence community assesses that Ukraine will not reach the city of Melitopol in its current offensive. Last week, Gen. Mark A. Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Ukrainian troops may have only "30 to 45 days' worth of fighting weather left" in the current offensive.

On Sunday, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg told German media there would be no swift end to the conflict. "Most wars last longer than expected when they first begin," he told the Funke media group. "We are all wishing for a quick peace."

By contrast, at last year's U.N. gathering, Ukrainian diplomats arrived in New York with the wind at their backs, with Kyiv's forces pushing back Russian forces around the southern city of Kherson and the northeastern city of Kharkiv, reclaiming valuable territory.

Still, Milley and other senior U.S. officials have said Ukrainian troops "aren't done" and are continuing to make "steady progress."

While majorities of U.N. member states have voted to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine, many in the Global South have grown concerned about the prospects of an unending stalemate. A bloc of nations in Africa and Latin America maintain economic and diplomatic links to the Kremlin and are loath to enforce Western sanctions for fear of the economic impact.

"The default position among the majority of U.N. members is we need to negotiate an end to the war," said Richard Gowan, a U.N. expert at the International Crisis Group. "If Zelensky sits down at the U.N. Security Council and says we will keep fighting forever, then that will create a clear dissonance with a lot of non-Western countries struggling with debt and poverty who feel that their problems are being overshadowed."

Sullivan, the national security adviser, contested the notion that there is a significant delta between the U.S. position and the developing world, saying American diplomats have worked hard to close the gap. "We actually believe that we have over the course of the past several months built a strong engagement and dialogue with the Global South on what ultimately a just peace looks like," he said. "It does not seem that Russia is particularly serious about that at the moment."

A top U.S. adversary who did make the trip to New York is Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, whose nation has provided Russia a fleet of self-detonating Shahed drones that have menaced Ukrainian troops and population centers. Raisi told a small group of journalists in New York on Monday that Iran is "against the war in Ukraine. Period."

However, when asked about Iran's military support for Russia, he appeared to play coy, asking the assembled reporters to show proof while also noting that Tehran has had a complex relationship with Moscow that predates the war.

Beyond Ukraine, Biden's speech before the world body is expected to tout his administration's record on global leadership.

The president will also meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday as the two allies navigate a range of challenges arising from Israel's most right-wing government in history. Biden and many Democrats in Congress are critical of Netanyahu's plan to overhaul Israel's judiciary, which they fear threatens the country's democracy. Netanyahu has also repeatedly rebuffed Biden's requests to stop the expansion of settlements in the West Bank and allow the United States to reopen a consulate in Jerusalem to service Palestinians.

In light of these divisions, Biden has kept his distance from the Israeli leader, and the meeting in New York will be their first tête-à-tête since Netanyahu won his election last fall.

This week, Biden will also become the first U.S. president to meet together with leaders of the five Central Asian countries, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The discussions with those five countries, sometimes referred to collectively as the "Stans," are expected to concentrate on trade, climate change and regional security issues. Biden is also set to speak with U.N. Secretary General António Guterres.

Following the meetings in New York, Zelensky will follow Biden back to Washington as both leaders make the case to Congress to approve additional funding for Ukraine. Biden is seeking a package of more than $24 billion in funding that includes $13.1 billion in military aid, $8.5 billion for humanitarian support and $2.3 billion for the government's financial needs.

The package faces opposition among some House Republicans, but GOP leaders say Zelensky's visit is likely to be "very, very persuasive," Rep. Michael R. Turner (R-Ohio), chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, told CBS News on Sunday. "Zelensky is a great spokesperson. He really makes the case better than anyone."

On that the White House agrees — even if Zelensky's pleas for support occasionally rankle the Oval Office.

"He has proven over the course of the past 18, 19 months, that there is no better advocate for his country, for his people and for the urgent and continuing need for countries like the United States and our allies and partners to step up to provide the necessary tools and resources that Ukraine needs," Sullivan said.

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PHOTOS BY SIMA DIAB FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Villagers survived Morocco's earthquake but lost nearly everything else

BY CLAIRE PARKER AND SIMA DIAB
IN TINISKT, MOROCCO

By all accounts, life in this village in Morocco's Atlas Mountains was simple and good, even if it was rarely easy.

Families had lived for generations in the small cluster of houses surrounded by olive and nut trees, which generated a third of the village's income. Money from sons and daughters who grew up and moved to cities provided the rest.

Time was measured by the cycle of harvests and weekly markets, by births, marriages and deaths. During the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, kids would swim in a concrete pool filled with water piped in from a mountain spring.

"Kanat zwiiiiina," a chorus of teenage girls said on Wednesday, remembering the village. It was beautiful.

When a 6.8-magnitude earthquake shook the region on Sept. 8, Tiniskt was decimated in a matter of seconds.

More than 50 of its 330 residents died — there was no time to wash and bury them properly. Everyone knew each of the dead.

But the survivors have each other. They have spent the past week in blue government-provided tents. On a recent morning, women ladled out milk porridge from communal pots for breakfast. Men parceled out equal portions of donated goods for each family. Boys played soccer in the dirt. Toddlers nestled into adults' laps — it didn't matter whose.

Hassan Ait Lemachi enters a cemetery in Tiniskt, Morocco, where victims of the Sept. 8 earthquake are buried. Hassan lost his wife and daughter when their house collapsed.



Zahra Ait Tagadirt, 30

Zahra Ait Tagadirt arrived in the village five years ago, to be married to a man twice her age. At first, she was lonely, she said. But when she gave birth to Farah a year later, she had a constant companion, and made some friends.

Baby Youssef arrived 2½ years later. The children were "so beautiful and sweet, and everyone in the village loved them," she said, looking down at her hands, stained with the henna her daughter had helped paint them with.

Farah, 4, loved to ride the bicycle gifted to her by an older half sister. Youssef, not yet 2, liked to play in the mud.

Sept. 8 was a Friday like any other, Zahra said. The family rose early, and the children accompanied their father to collect grass from their field, which they would dry for the winter to feed the animals.

While her husband went to the mosque for Friday prayer, Zahra made couscous for lunch. She bathed Farah and sent her to school to learn the Quran. In the evening, she put the kids to bed, earlier than usual. She got up to go to the toilet and, when she came out, the earthquake began.

Two floors collapsed to the ground. Zahra passed out. When she regained consciousness, she heard her husband calling to her. Neighbors dug him out alive. But the kids were gone.

"If I have a chance to go, I would leave," Zahra said of the village. "I have nothing to stay for anymore."



El Houssine Ait Yahia, 72, and Aicha Ait Oubelkassem

El Houssine peered through the doorway of what used to be his home, the scent of mint rising from a clump of herbs outside.

At 72, he's seen a lot: His village has grown and modernized. He married his wife, Aicha, a woman with merry eyes, in 1972. They raised their five children in the house where El Houssine was born.

In the early 1980s, El Houssine used his savings to build a new home for himself and his wife, one that was "way better than the first one." On the night of the earthquake, he said, they were discussing what they would buy from the market the next day: potatoes and zucchini, but not carrots, which cost too much.

The minute his wife said "radishes," the earth shook. The lights went out.

Neighbors with flashlights found the couple unharmed, but the house lay in ruins. "Now it's all gone, as if it had never been there," he said, perched on a clay wall.

Several men had bulldozed a clearing where an earlier version of the village once stood. It was here, he said, where Tiniskt would rise again.

On Thursday, Morocco's King Mohammed VI announced an aid package to help people rebuild their homes. The villagers in Tiniskt — used to relying on each other — weren't waiting around.

A local association affixed solar lights to wooden poles to illuminate the central road. A young man collected plastic to construct a shower. Starting over was a daunting task, El Houssine said. But it is their only choice.

"We have no home other than this village," he said. "What else would we do?"



Fatna Daba, age unknown

Fatna Daba trudged up the hill to what was left of her house.

The earthquake had caused the top floor to cave in. "Thanks be to God," she said, pointing to the sky — a common gesture in Tiniskt, where many described the quake as part of a divine plan.

Fatna married into the village decades ago. Her husband's son from a previous marriage lived with the couple, who had two sons and a daughter of their own. Fatna's husband died 20 years ago and was buried in the village cemetery. Her children moved away.

Only her stepson, who was in his 40s and disabled, remained at home. He died in the quake. Fatna was rescued by a neighbor.

Their family was one of the poorest in the village. Her sons sent money from Casablanca, but it was never enough. She would beg sometimes in the souks of larger towns down the road.

Fatna relied on her animals, who all survived: a donkey, tied to a tree; a red cow, contentedly munching on grass; and her male calf, asleep in the shade of an olive tree.

"We lived on whatever God would give," Fatna said.

"I lost three of my closest friends, which affected me a lot," she said in Tamazight, the language spoken by most of the villagers.

"My life will change without them."

Fatna hopes to stay but has no interest in rebuilding her home. "The house has lost its spirit, it's lost its soul," she said.



Mariam, 20, and Najat Ait Boujanaa, 17

For sisters Mariam and Najat Ait Boujanaa, it was already a season of mourning.

When their father died of an illness 40 days before the earthquake, Mariam said, the whole community rallied around their mother, Saida, and the three siblings, including 10-year-old Jamal. Neighbors cleaned the family's house, cooked them food and washed the dishes.

By early September, Mariam had returned to university in Marrakesh, where she studies economics.

On the night of Sept. 8, she received a desperate voice message from her sister. "Mariam, save me," Najat said. "The house collapsed on us." Jamal had been able to get out and run for help.

Saida and Najat were eventually pulled from the rubble. Mariam spent the following days frantically trying to reach the village. Roads were blocked and cars were full.

She arrived on Tuesday to utter destruction. Some of her former classmates had been killed, along with neighbors who had been there for her in her time of need.

"I see their children walking by, and I can't hold my tears," she said.

Mariam wasn't sure the village would survive. Many in her generation had already left to find work in big cities; others were now likely to follow.

"I hope the people decide to stay so the memory of those who died remains alive," she said.



Hassan Ait Lemachi, 49

Hassan Ait Lemachi was known as a father of five and the local builder. Now, he is known as the man lost in grief.

He lived with his wife of 25 years, Fatima ("my other half"), and little Salma, 9, whom he and the whole village doted on. His three older daughters had married and moved away; 18-year-old Sihem later went to stay with one of them.

Hassan and Salma were watching "Tom & Jerry" that night. After a while, Salma grew tired. She crawled into bed with her mother in the next room. Five minutes later, the violent shaking began. The house crashed down around them.

Hassan's hand was sliced and his shin bruised, but he was able to escape. He knew immediately that his wife and daughter were dead. Adrenaline coursing through him, he managed to save four of his neighbors.

Morocco's civil protection service, which arrived in Tiniskt the next day, found the bodies. Fatima and Salma were embracing.

Four days later, when his nephew showed a Washington Post reporter a photo of Salma — smiling with big brown eyes, her hair in two buns, flashing a peace sign — Hassan curled up in a fetal position in his tent, clutching his face.

He had been roaming the village all week, his neighbors said, his arms in the air, crying out for his daughter.

Ukraine ousts more defense officials, decries a grain ban by E.U. neighbors

BY DAVID L. STERN, LOVEDAY MORRIS AND EMILY RAUHALA

KYIV — A wide-ranging overhaul of Ukraine's defense ministry continued Monday as all six deputy defense ministers were dismissed, two weeks after President Volodymyr Zelensky replaced the top minister amid investigations into overspending and corruption.

The shake-up will allow the new defense minister, Rustem Umerov, the opportunity to install his own team. No specific reason was given for the removals.

Ukrainian forces have been making incremental gains in their counteroffensive to break through Russian lines, but the grinding pace of the operation has raised some concerns in the West that Kyiv will not achieve its objectives this year, despite billions in donated weapons and other military aid.

Meanwhile, defense ministry officials have been accused of graft in the country's military recruiting system and of overspending in the procurement of food and supplies. The ousted minister, Oleksii Reznikov, was not implicated personally, but his removal was praised by anti-corruption advocates.

In recent weeks, Russia repeatedly has targeted Ukrainian grain infrastructure, seeking to cripple the agricultural sector, which is vital to Ukraine's economy. That has left Ukraine desperately searching for alternative ways to export grain, including overland through neighboring countries.

In a sign that Moscow's strategy had succeeded in fueling differences between Ukraine and European Union nations, Kyiv announced on Monday that it will file complaints against Poland, Hungary and Slovakia at the World Trade Organization. Those countries have extended a ban on imports of Ukrainian grain seeking to protect their own farmers.

"It is fundamentally important for us to prove that individual member states cannot ban the import of Ukrainian goods," Ukrainian Economic Minister Yuliia Svyridenko said in a statement. She said she hoped the three countries would lift the restrictions and Ukraine would not have to "clarify its relationship" with them in court. The timing and details of the complaints was unclear.

Ukraine's neighbors have generally been strong supporters. But the influx of Ukrainian agricultural products has tested that solidarity. On Friday, Hungary announced that it was expanding the ban from grains to 20 other agricultural products, including vegetables, meat and honey.

In the military shake-up on Monday, those officials who were dismissed included Deputy Defense Minister Hanna Maliar, who became a familiar face to Ukrainians throughout Russian's invasion of Ukraine by delivering daily updates on the situation on the battlefield. State Secretary Kostiantyn Vashchenko of the defense ministry was also removed.

Two weeks ago, Zelensky replaced Reznikov with Umerov, a prominent political activist and head of the country's State Property Fund, promising "new approaches." Reznikov's dismissal followed reports in the Ukrainian media that the defense ministry had overpaid for military jackets.

Meanwhile, the commander of Ukrainian ground forces, Oleksandr Syrskyi said Ukrainian forces had broken through Russian defenses near the city of Bakhmut in the Donetsk region.

On Sunday, soldiers from the 80th Separate Air Assault Brigade posted a video in front of a destroyed building in what they said was the village of Klishchiivka, near Bakhmut. Ukrainian forces retreated from Bakhmut in May after months of fighting to hold it against a Russian onslaught.

A spokesman for Ukraine's eastern forces, Illia Yevlash, confirmed on Ukrainian television that Klishchiivka had been retaken, which Yevlash said could provide a "jumping off point" for further actions in the east and help "liberate our land from the occupiers."

The news of Klishchiivka's liberation came two days after Ukrainian forces said they had liberated Andriivka, another village near Bakhmut.

The news about Klishchiivka, while undoubtedly positive for Kyiv, also underlined the slow progress that Ukrainian forces are making.

On Monday, air raid alerts sounded for hours in the early morning across Ukraine, including Kyiv. Ukraine's air force said in a social media post that overnight Russian bombers fired 17 cruise missiles at targets in central and western Ukraine, all of which were intercepted.

Russian forces also launched 24 Iranian-made self-destructing drones at the Odessa and Mykolaiv regions, officials said, 18 of which Ukraine claimed to have successfully destroyed. The Post could not independently verify the claims.

The expiration of the E.U. grain ban last week occurred at particularly crucial time for Poland and Slovakia, with both countries heading into bitterly fought parliamentary elections in the next month.

Poland's right-wing populist government, which relies on the agricultural areas that flank the border with Ukraine as a base of support, has pledged not to allow cheaper Ukrainian grain that was previously exported through the Black Sea ports to flood its market and undercut local farmers.

Polish officials have implied that the E.U. is trying to hurt the chances of the governing Law and Justice party ahead of the elections.

The E.U. takes "political decisions, not based on merit," Poland's agriculture minister, Robert Telus, told Polish television last week. Telus has said that if restrictions were not put on Ukrainian agricultural imports to the E.U., then Poland would not support Ukraine's bid to join the bloc.

"It's a very big issue," said Sonia Sobczyk-Grygiel, an analyst with Polityka Insight, an independent think tank in Warsaw. "Ukraine has great farms, the best soils, they have cheaper labor and energy and they don't have the demands we have as a member of the European Union."

Poland should have been working with the E.U. on a solution rather than ramping up political rhetoric ahead of Brussels's decision, said Dariusz Szymczycha, vice president of the Polish-Ukrainian chamber of commerce. Now cracks are deepening with both Brussels and Kyiv, he added. "For sure, in Moscow, they are so happy."

Kostiantyn Khudov and Anastacia Galouchka contributed to this report.

House GOP 'report card' finds divide on Ukraine

BY MARISA IATI

As Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky prepares to visit Capitol Hill this week to lobby for additional aid in his country's war against Russia, a conservative group released a "report card" Monday grading House Republicans on their support for Kyiv.

The newly released analysis highlights the stark divide within the Republican Party on providing more financial assistance to Ukraine. Of the 222 members, nearly as many failed the report card as received the highest mark. Defending Democracy Together, led by Republican strategist Sarah Longwell and conservative political commentator Bill Kristol, doled out 82 A's, 43 B's, eight C's, 17 D's and 72 F's.

The bluntest split was between House Republican leadership and some of the most prominent current and former members of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus. Many members of the party's right-most flank have been advocating for cutting aid to Ukraine — in some cases to zero.

Their desires hold sway, as House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) needs their votes on spending bills to keep the government open past a Sept. 30 deadline. McCarthy's speakership also hangs on the support of his most conservative members, who have threatened to seek his removal if he doesn't meet their demands.

The report card is part of Defending Democracy Together's $2 million Republicans for Ukraine campaign, which launched in August to press GOP members of Congress to appropriate more funding for aid to the U.S. ally. Defending Democracy Together determined grades by weighing how members had voted on Ukraine-related bills, as well as their public statements about that nation's war against Russia.

Gunner Ramer, a spokesman for Republicans for Ukraine, said his organization initiated the project in response to the GOP's recent shift toward greater isolationism. The number of members who received low grades signals to him that the party's House delegation is "not fully in support of democracy."

"I think that 10 years ago, that would have shocked me," he said. "But today it doesn't shock me, because this isolationist Donald Trump-led Republican Party no longer stands for what it once used to."

A growing number of congressional Republicans are expressing skepticism about Biden's request for an additional $24 billion in aid for Ukraine. While Senate leaders have indicated support for the supplemental funding, several members of the House have said they would not back more aid for the Eastern European democracy as it struggles to win a definitive victory in its counteroffensive.

Recent public opinion surveys suggest that Americans' support for Ukraine is moving in the same direction. Among Republicans specifically, 56 percent said in a Fox News poll released last month that U.S. assistance to Ukraine should be decreased — up from the 38 percent who said the same in December.

The White House insists that the nation remains committed to supporting Ukraine.

"We want to see the war end," National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told reporters Wednesday. "And it could end today, obviously, if [Russian President Vladimir] Putin would do the right thing and just get the hell out. That's clearly not going to happen right now. So we're going to continue to provide Ukraine with the capabilities that they need to be successful."

McCarthy, who got a B-minus on the report card, has been uneven on the topic of Ukraine. He said last fall that the United States should not give Kyiv a "blank check," but this spring told a Russian reporter that he does support sending aid. A spokesman for McCarthy said this month that considering Biden's request for more funding is not a priority for the speaker.

The four other House Republican leaders also scored relatively highly: House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (La.) received a B, and Majority Whip Tom Emmer (Minn.) got an A. Rep. Elise Stefanik (N.Y.), chairman of the Republican Conference, and Rep. Gary Palmer (Ala.), who chairs the Republican Policy Committee, each scored a B-minus.

In contrast, three of the highest-profile members of the Freedom Caucus — Reps. Lauren Boebert (Colo.), Paul A. Gosar (Ariz.) and Jim Jordan (Ohio) — and a prominent former member, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (Ga.), each received an F.

Asked to comment on support for Ukraine aid, a spokesperson for Greene pointed to her comments Wednesday that "not a single penny" of U.S. taxpayer dollars should go to a "proxy war" in Ukraine.

"I'll proudly hang that report card up in my office," Greene told The Washington Post in a statement. "When the America Last grading system awards an A for putting another country's borders before our own, I'm happy to receive an F."

Spokespeople for McCarthy, Scalise, Emmer, Stefanik, Palmer, Boebert, Gosar and Jordan did not respond to requests for comment.

Defending Democracy Together also plans to advocate for additional aid to Ukraine by placing mobile billboards in the districts of House Republican leadership and running an ad campaign on Fox News and elsewhere. The group said its first Ukraine ad aired during the first Republican primary debate on Fox News last month.

In addition to influencing lawmakers, Ramer said that the efforts are meant to show Republican voters that other GOP members back continued funding for Ukrainian defense. The group is banking on the idea that like-minded people will be convincing messengers.

"When you look at what Russia has done to the people of Ukraine, it is despicable," Ramer said. "And I think that any traditional Republican, conservative should look at what is happening in Ukraine and be completely dismayed by it."

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ANALYSIS

U.S.-Iran prisoner swap could pave way for talks on more substantive issues

BY SUSANNAH GEORGE



ATTA KENARE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

People walk outside the Grand Bazaar in Tehran this month. At a time when Iran's economy is sputtering after years of international sanctions, Tehran might have seen Monday's prisoner swap with the United States as a last chance to secure access to funds.

DUBAI — Faced with crippling sanctions at home and eyeing upcoming U.S. elections, Iran agreed to a prisoner swap that freed five Americans, five Iranians and granted Tehran access to $6 billion of its reserves frozen abroad Monday.

After years of escalating tensions with the United States, Iran may have seen Monday's prisoner swap as a last chance to secure access — albeit limited — to funds at a time when the country's economy is sputtering after years of international sanctions and economic mismanagement, according to analysts.

There is also hope that these small steps could lead to discussion of more substantive issues such as a return to the nuclear deal — though that could be hampered by uncertainty of what sort of leadership will be running the United States after the elections.

"The Iranians seem reluctant to give away most of their leverage to restore the nuclear deal not knowing who the next U.S. president will be," said Ali Vaez, the Iran project director for the International Crisis Group. "Nobody really wants a deal, but they're still going to talk about it."

The Biden administration has pledged to revive a nuclear agreement with Iran, but if a Republican wins the 2024 presidential election, Iran policy is likely to experience a dramatic shift, as happened when Donald Trump took office and withdrew from the Iran nuclear deal.

After announcing the swap, Iranian leaders characterized the negotiations as evidence of Washington capitulating to their demands. The agreement "could have happened long ago if the American side cooperated and did not relate [the swap] to other issues," said Nasser Kanaani, the Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman.

He also said the $6 billion in Iranian funds arrived in Qatar on Monday and the "assets will be available to the government and the nation." Iran has said it will have full discretion over the money's use, while the U.S. Treasury describes it has a carefully monitored humanitarian channel supporting the "Iranian people's access to food, agricultural goods, medicine, and medical devices under strict due diligence measures."

The willingness of the two countries to agree on Monday's swap shows Washington and Tehran have decided the escalating tensions between the two countries won't serve either side, analysts and officials say. But that understanding is fragile and could easily collapse.

A detainee deal was "the lowest hanging fruit" of issues the two sides could agree on, said Vaez. The United States and Iran "have not resolved anything, they've just agreed to keep a lid on their differences."

Successfully carrying out the prisoner swap "ensures the sustainability" of current U.S.-Iran relations, preventing tensions from spiraling out of control, rather than establishing a new dynamic, he said.

> *"The Iranians seem reluctant to give away most of their leverage to restore the nuclear deal not knowing who the next U.S. president will be."*
> **Ali Vaez,** the Iran project director for the International Crisis Group

The agreement that facilitated the swap does not address issues beyond the prisoner exchange, the transfer of Iranian funds and how the funds will be monitored. But the months of talks that led up to the deal could pave the way for future negotiations.

"We see this as building trust between the two sides," said an official familiar with the negotiations who, like others in this report, spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive diplomatic exchanges.

Officials from the United States and Iran negotiated the terms of the swap for more than a year after talks on a wider range of issues, including nuclear agreements, came to a "standstill" in June 2022, according to an individual with close knowledge of the talks. Qatar hosted the talks and its diplomats shuttled between the two parties.

"Representatives from the United States and Iran stayed at two separate hotels in Doha with no direct interactions or face-to-face contact," the individual said.

Qatar became a key mediator in the deal, and its foreign minister, Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani recently said the swap is "a step" he hopes "will lead to wider dialogue on the Iranian nuclear issue."

Domestic politics in the two nations, however, have long bedeviled attempts at drawing closer and frustrated both sides as they have sought to find common ground on the comparatively simpler matter of a prisoner swap — much less renegotiating a nuclear deal.

Jared Genser, a lawyer for the family of Siamak Namazi, the Iranian American who had been held in Tehran for nearly eight years, called it a "terrible dance."

"There are times the U.S. was trying to sit down with Iran and Iran was moving in the other direction, or times when Iran wanted to sit down with the United States, but the U.S. was moving in another direction," he said, describing how political willingness to engage has ebbed and flowed on both sides over the course of three administrations in Washington.

"To get them to move together at the same time is very, very hard to do," he said.

Iranian media with close links to the country's hard-liners portrayed the prisoner swap as an attempt by a weakened President Biden trying to distract attention from low poll numbers ahead of the elections, rather than some kind of hopeful breakthrough in relations.

The future of U.S.-Iran relations remains fragile moving forward.

Eric Brewer, with the Nuclear Threat Initiative think tank and a former U.S. intelligence official who worked on nuclear nonproliferation, said he believes the swap signals a "tentative" de-escalation, but warns there is "always the risk that it collapses."

Many of the factors that have caused talks on nuclear issues to come to a standstill in recent years, remain, he said.

"Even if we get back to that point, we still have to solve all those problems," he said, like Iranian military support for Russia and brutal repression of protest movements. "And we've also probably got some new problems that have emerged since."

So over time, reaching a deal could become more difficult.

"With sanctions enforcement easing and Iran having success at mending fences in the region and a stronger partnership with Russian and China," he said, "then Iran might believe that it can keep its advanced nuclear program at an acceptable cost."



Limits for Iran's nuclear program also discussed amid release negotiations

IRAN FROM **A1**

U.S. allies for their help in freeing the prisoners and warned U.S. citizens not to travel to Iran.

He also held an "emotional call" with the families of the Americans, the White House said.

The prisoners' release is a major relief to their families and supporters, many of whom have waited several years for their return from Iran's notorious Evin Prison. It has also come under harsh criticism from Republicans in Congress opposed to any agreement that involves the unfreezing of Iranian funds. Though under the agreement the money may be used only for the purchase of humanitarian goods, Republicans say the administration should have negotiated a deal with terms more favorable to the United States.

Amid the talks, the United States and Iran also have been discussing a possible informal arrangement that would seek to place some limitations on Iran's nuclear program. U.S. officials have insisted, however, that those discussions are unrelated to the prisoner exchanges.

The U.S. prisoners freed by Iran include Siamak Namazi, an Iranian American who had been behind bars in Tehran for nearly eight years, the longest duration the Islamic republic has jailed any American. Others include Morad Tahbaz, an Iranian American who also holds British citizenship, and Emad Shargi, an American Iranian dual citizen. Each was released from Evin Prison and placed under house arrest last month, an initial step in the deal.

At the request of their families, two other American detainees in the swap have not been publicly identified.

"This is a momentous day for the Namazi family who have not been together — all four of them — since early 2015," Jared Genser, the Namazi family's lawyer, said in an interview. "Frankly, we never knew this day was actually going to arrive. The family has been through an extraordinary trauma through this very, very long and painful process. There are many challenges that lie ahead."

The complex deal involved a carefully choreographed process by both Tehran and Washington, according to U.S. officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the sensitive arrangement.



MOHAMMED DABBOUS/REUTERS

American citizens freed by Iran make a stop in Qatar before continuing on to the United States. After extended negotiations, the U.S.-Iran prisoner swap resulted in five detainees from each side being released. There is hope that other issues with Iran might now be addressed.

Around 9 a.m. Eastern time, once Washington secured confirmation that the five Americans were on a Qatari government plane departing Iranian airspace, a senior administration official transmitted a statement to reporters indicating they were safely en route to Doha. Also on the flight were Effie Namazi, the mother of Siamak Namazi; Vida Tahbaz, the wife of Morad Tahbaz; and the Swiss ambassador to Tehran, Nadine Olivieri Lozano, who has helped manage U.S.-Iran interactions in the absence of formal diplomatic relations, officials said.

Footage of the Americans' arrival in Doha shows Namazi and Tahbaz exiting the plane and coming down to the tarmac, where they were embraced by U.S. officials. Namazi smiled and waved from the stairs, appearing to savor the moment.

As the Americans left Iran, the United States released five Iranians, some of whom had been charged with crimes but not yet convicted. An Iranian official identified them as Kaveh Afrasiabi, charged with illicit lobbying; Reza Sarhangpour Kafrani, charged with exporting lab gear for Iran's nuclear program in violation of sanctions; Mehrdad Ansari, serving five years in prison for acquiring military equipment; Kambiz Attar Kashani, who was accused of conspiring to export illegal goods; and Amin Hasanzadeh, charged with stealing sensitive planning information.

U.S. officials have described them as low-level, nonviolent criminals who do not pose a threat to national security.

Nasser Kanaani, a spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry, signaled earlier Monday that the deal was proceeding as planned. "Two of the Iranian citizens released in America will return to [Iran], and another person will travel to another country due to the presence of their family, and the other two people will remain in the United States," Kanaani told reporters, according to Iranian state media.

Meanwhile, a network of private banks and government financial institutions has finalized the transfer of funds to accounts that Iran will have access to under the supervision of the United States.

The $6 billion had been held in South Korea, one of Iran's largest oil customers, as a result of a waiver issued by the Trump administration in 2018 that permitted Seoul to continue purchasing Iran's oil. Those funds became stuck in 2019 when the Trump administration tightened sanctions on Iran.

Over the past week, in preparation for the deal to be finalized, those funds were converted from Korean currency to euros before being moved to accounts in Qatar that can only be used for the purchase of non-sanctioned goods, such as food and medicine. U.S. officials say they will continue to have oversight of the money to ensure it is not being used for nefarious purposes.

Raisi, speaking to journalists in New York, said the unfrozen Iranian oil revenue "belonged to the people of Iran and will be solely spent to address the needs of the people of Iran."

U.S. officials said Iran can access the money only after the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control issues a document saying the U.S. prisoners have reached their final destination.

Before the prisoner deal, the Biden administration's relationship with Tehran was marked by deep distrust, largely over the failure to revive a nuclear deal that Biden had vowed to renew when he ran for president. Tehran has refused to talk directly with Washington, requiring third parties to help with discussions.

The governments of Qatar and Oman played a significant role in facilitating discussions between the two sides over the detainees' release and hosting the talks, said officials familiar with the matter. Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates and Iraq also played a role.

The United States' European allies broadly support a revised deal to restrain Tehran's nuclear program. They hope that progress on detainees will help pave the way for more productive nuclear discussions, but expectations remain low.

"Iran, through their attitude in past years and particularly recently, has not shown tremendous will to cooperate with the United Nations, with the Vienna Convention, to respect commitments," French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna told reporters at the United Nations on Monday.

Iran's nuclear program has expanded significantly following the decision by President Donald Trump to pull the United States out of the 2015 nuclear deal. The accord, forged by the Obama administration, imposed strict limitations on Iran's program in exchange for sanctions relief.

When asked if the prisoner deal might lead to productive talks on the nuclear front, a senior administration official said, "We do not close the door entirely to diplomacy, but we approach it with principled standards."

"If we see the opportunity, we will explore it," the official said.

Susannah George in Dubai and Michael Birnbaum in New York contributed to this report.



Stop 'destructive' military sorties, Taiwan urges, as China escalates threats

Over 100 aircraft, ships make largest single-day incursion in three years

BY LILY KUO AND VIC CHIANG

TAIPEI, TAIWAN — China sent more than 100 fighter jets and nine navy ships into the Taiwan Strait on Monday, marking the largest single-day incursion in three years as Beijing escalates its threats against the island democracy.

Taiwan's Defense Ministry said 103 Chinese military aircraft and nine navy vessels were detected near Taiwan as of 6 a.m. local time Monday. Forty of the aircraft had entered Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) by crossing the median line, an unofficial sea border between Taiwan and China that helped maintain stability for years in the 110-mile-wide strait.

Beijing, which claims Taiwan is an inseparable part of the People's Republic of China, has increasingly ignored the median line, sending sorties closer to Taiwan, in what are known as "gray zone" tactics intended to exhaust and intimidate Taiwan's smaller military.

Taiwan's Defense Ministry said Monday's incursion set a "new high" and would pose "severe challenges" to security in the Taiwan Strait.

"The People's Liberation Army's continued military harassment could easily cause a sharp increase in tensions and worsen regional security," it said in a statement, referring to the official name of China's military. "We call on the Beijing authorities to take responsibility and immediately stop such destructive unilateral actions."

The Taiwanese military said it was monitoring the situation and had dispatched aircraft, navy vessels and land-based missile systems to respond. When asked about the incursion at a news briefing Monday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said: "Taiwan is part of China. There is no such thing as the 'median line.'"

Military observers in Taiwan said the reason for the escalation, which came a day after Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan in an effort to stabilize deteriorating ties, was not obvious. Chinese Vice President Han Zheng is set to meet U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken this week on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly.



TAIWANESE DEFENSE MINISTRY/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The Chinese aircraft carrier Shandong, left, seen earlier this month in the Bashi Channel, is monitored by a Taiwanese warship.

"It stands to reason that when high-level officials from the United States and China are in talks, they will create a more relaxed atmosphere," said Shu Hsiao-huang, associate research fellow at Taiwan's Institute for National Defense and Security Research.

"In the past, when incursions hit new heights, it was usually in response to a specific event," he said, "but this time doesn't seem to be in response to anything."

Taiwan's typhoon season may have prevented the Chinese military from sending planes earlier, or the PLA may simply be conducting large-scale exercises, according to Shu. China's Shandong aircraft carrier was seen on Sept. 11 sailing through the Bashi Channel, between Taiwan and the Philippines, according to Taiwan's Defense Ministry. Dozens of PLA ships and war craft were detected in the western Pacific, possibly in response to a series of military exercises the United States held with Indo-Pacific allies in August.

China has said for years that it seeks "peaceful reunification" with Taiwan but will take it by force if necessary. In recent years, ties between the two sides have broken down following the election of Tsai Ing-wen, whose Democratic Progressive Party is seen as less favorable to Beijing. As China-U.S. relations have deteriorated, cross-strait tensions have also risen.

In the days following a high-profile visit to Taiwan by then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) in August of last year, the PLA fired missiles around Taiwan and sent more than 200 military aircraft and more than 50 warships in a show of force, conducting military exercises that encircled the main island. Since then, China has created a "new normal" of PLA aircraft regularly crossing the median line.

Monday's incursion included China's fourth-generation fighter jets, the J-10 and the J-16, as well as refueling planes. A map released by the Taiwanese Defense Ministry showed some of the aircraft crossing the median line and continuing past the southern tip of Taiwan's main island into the Bashi Channel, potentially cutting Taiwan off from the Philippines, where the United States will soon have access to new military bases.

"They are trying to create a new normal — to say they don't need a special reason. They can display their military might at any time. They want to put constant pressure on Taiwan's perimeter. One of the things they want to say is that they can blockade Taiwan anytime if they want to," said Lin Ying-yu, a professor who teaches PLA studies at Tamkang University in Taiwan.

When asked by Netanyahu to denounce antisemitism, Elon Musk deflected

BY WILL OREMUS AND ELIZABETH DWOSKIN

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday publicly pressed tech billionaire Elon Musk to condemn antisemitism and find a way to combat it on his social media platform X as the pair met at a Tesla factory in Fremont, Calif.

"I hope you can find within the confines of the First Amendment the ability to stop not only antisemitism, or roll it back as best you can, but any collective hatred of the people that antisemitism represents," Netanyahu urged Musk in the meeting, which was livestreamed on the social media platform formerly known as Twitter. He added, "I encourage you to find the balance. It's a tough one."

While the meeting was largely cordial, Musk sidestepped Netanyahu's call to forcefully denounce anti-Jewish hatred, which research shows has spiked on the platform since Musk bought it nearly a year ago. Musk has restored accounts previously banned for hate speech and has repeatedly criticized a prominent Jewish human rights organization, stoking a recent wave of antisemitic attacks.

Musk told Netanyahu that, while he's personally against antisemitism, "free speech does at times mean that someone you don't like is saying something you don't like. If you don't have that, then it's not free speech." He did not address his own role in promoting it.

The meeting came as each leader looks to the other to help fend off escalating criticism. The pair had said their meeting was intended to discuss artificial intelligence, but the conversation quickly veered to antisemitism and also touched on Iran as well as protests in both Israel and the United States against Netanyahu's government.

Protesters who followed Netanyahu's motorcade from the San Jose airport to the factory 17 miles north planned to continue protesting in San Francisco's Union Square. Sunday night, Netanyahu critics projected "Welcome to Alcatraz Bibi" — Netanyahu's nickname — on the wall of the prison that is one of San Francisco's most iconic landmarks.

For Netanyahu, the meeting with one of the world's most prominent tech entrepreneurs comes amid outcry that his controversial push to overhaul Israel's judiciary risks scaring off international investors and the tech community that has given Israel its reputation as a "start-up nation." In remarks made in Israel before his departure for California, Netanyahu called Musk "the current leader of the most dramatic development in the new age and perhaps in general," apparently referring to AI, and said he will "work toward encouraging him to invest in Israel in the coming years."

For Musk, a personal visit from Netanyahu offered a chance to counter allegations of antisemitism after a series of tweets in which he blamed the 110-year-old Anti-Defamation League for trying to destroy X and threatened a lawsuit against the nonprofit. Research has found that antisemitic speech has risen dramatically on the platform since Musk acquired it last fall, and ADL leaders have said Musk's recent criticism of the organization has further stoked hate online and off.

But on Monday, Musk twice passed up Netanyahu's requests for a forceful, specific condemnation of antisemitism, pivoting instead to the importance of free speech and combating bots on X.

"Generally, I mean, I'm sort of against attacking any group," Musk said. "You know, it doesn't matter who it is."

He went on, "I'm in favor of that which furthers civilization and which ultimately leads us to become a spacefaring civilization, where we understand the nature of the universe. So we can't do that if there's a lot of infighting and, you know, hatred and negativity. So, you know, obviously I'm against antisemitism. I'm against anti, really, anything that promotes hate and conflict."

When Musk shifted to the importance of allowing free speech, Netanyahu politely pushed back.

"It doesn't stop you from coming out, as you have, as I do in every possible form, and condemn antisemitism," Netanyahu said. "The condemnation is quite separate from the question of access."

Musk spoke instead about X's newly announced plan to offer a lower pricing tier for its paid subscription service.

Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, said in a statement, "We appreciate PM Netanyahu for raising concerns about the proliferation of antisemitism on X/Twitter during his conversation with Elon Musk. We hope that Mr. Musk takes PM Netanyahu's concerns seriously so that X/Twitter can become a safer and more welcome place for all."

Musk's more than two dozen tweets attacking ADL caused the organization to face a string of attacks, and a hashtag Musk amplified was used at a white supremacist rally in Florida.

X is still considering whether to sue the ADL for what executives say are false claims about the level of hate speech on the service.

The Washington Post | LIVE

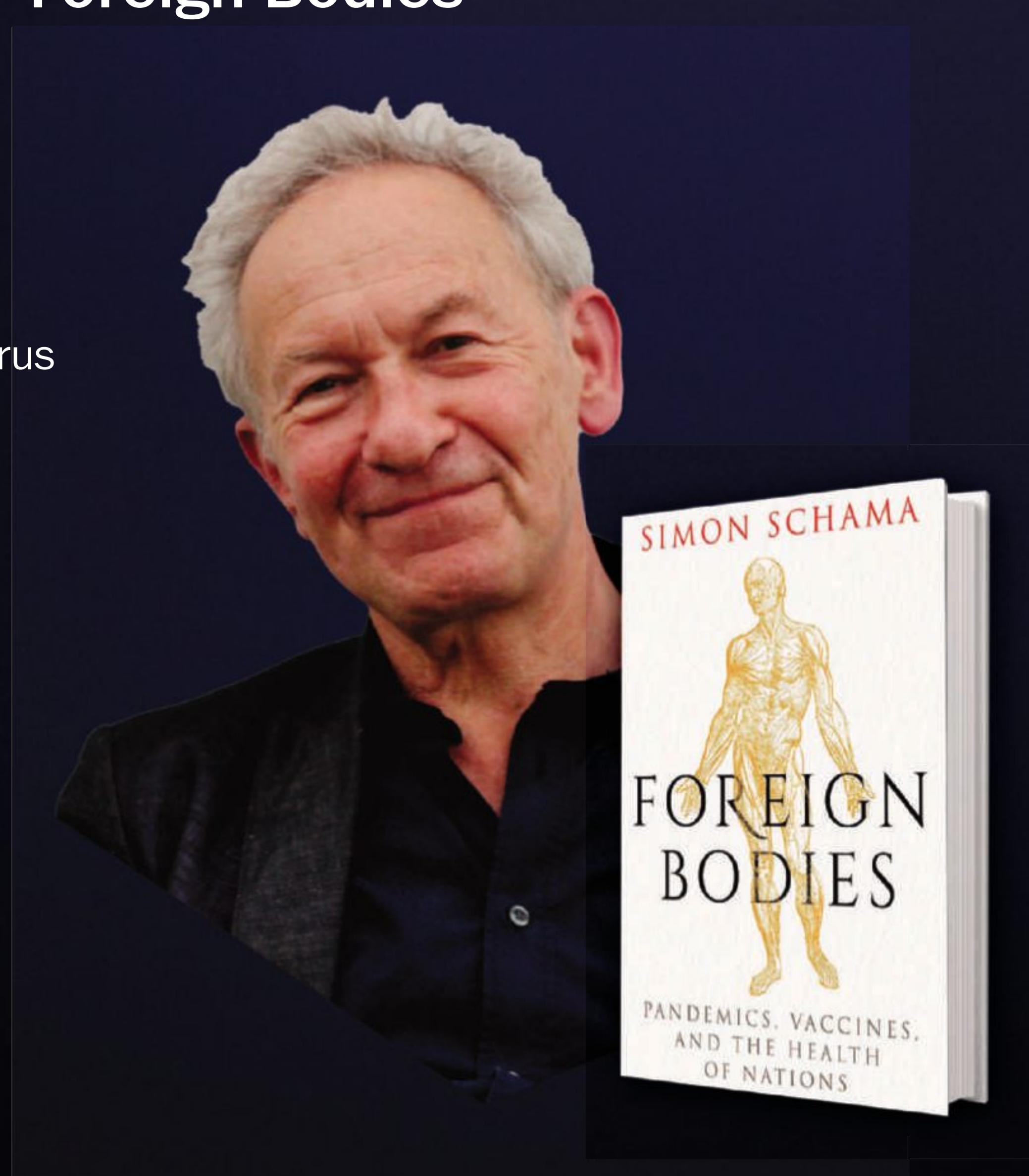
Simon Schama

Author, "Foreign Bodies"

Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 1:00 p.m.

The historian talks about his new book detailing the lessons from the coronavirus pandemic and infectious disease outbreaks in earlier centuries.

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ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Democrats urge Biden to join UAW strikers on picket line

Pressure comes amid a planned Trump rally with workers in Detroit

BY JEFF STEIN

President Biden is coming under increasing pressure from some Democratic lawmakers to do something none of his predecessors appear to have done in office: join striking workers walking a picket line.

As the United Auto Workers strike against all three of the nation's biggest automakers, numerous Democrats in Michigan and around the country have expressed concern as Biden's likely rival in next year's election, former president Donald Trump, tries to woo union voters and weaken a crucial Democratic constituency by making his own visit to a strike site.

Trump is planning a rally in Detroit next week with union workers, including autoworkers, during the next GOP primary debate, although it is unclear if he will also visit the picket line, according to one person familiar with campaign planning, speaking on the condition of anonymity to describe the plans.

Democrats want Biden to go underscore the parties' differences on labor issues.

"It would send a very strong message that Democrats stand for working people — I really do feel Biden should show up, and show up soon," said Michigan state Rep. Mike McFall, a first-term Democrat whose district includes part of Detroit. "I am quite worried about Trump showing up, and what that would mean for our party in November."

Biden has applauded the UAW's targeted strike against Detroit's Big Three manufacturers, and on Friday called on General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis to improve their wage proposals to the union. The president's aides believe he has already gone above and beyond backing labor through numerous executive orders and legislation aimed at bolstering worker outcomes. And yet the labor action has posed a political puzzle for the president, who must figure out how far to go to stand with the UAW workers.

The White House declined to comment when asked if Biden is weighing a visit to the picket line. But in interviews with The Washington Post, more than a half-dozen Democrats in Congress and in the Michigan state legislature said he should go. UAW leadership has also communicated to the White House that a presidential visit would be welcomed, although it has not sent a formal invitation, according to two people with knowledge of internal discussions and a UAW official, all three of whom spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe private conversations.

"I know the UAW family would love the most powerful person in the world — the president of the United States — to come and hold a sign in solidarity with them. But I hope he does it in a way where he actually sits down and has a roundtable with some key people, and really listens to how hard it's been," said Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.). "Of course, the president coming would be extremely important. But people want someone who's advocating for them and demanding a form of economic justice for them and their families — to come in solidarity."

Several members of Congress, including House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) and Sens. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and John Fetterman (D-Pa.) have joined a UAW picket since the strike began at midnight Friday morning.

Rep. Ro Khanna (D-Calif.), who co-authored an op-ed with UAW President Shawn Fain on the strike and joined striking workers on Monday in Michigan and Ohio, said in a statement: "It would be great for President Biden to go as well, as he has been the most pro-union president in decades."

Asked about calls for Biden to join the picket line, White House spokeswoman Robyn Patterson pointed to the president's prior statements backing the union. Biden on Friday said the automakers "should go further to make sure record corporate profits mean record contracts," echoing the UAW's comments. Biden has appointed staunch labor allies to the National Labor Relations Board and federal judiciary, and provisions in a 2021 law Biden backed gave workers greater bargaining power and supercharged unionization efforts nationwide.

"There's no question the President stands with UAW workers," Patterson said by email. "His statement Friday made that crystal clear."

Still, Trump's visit to woo blue collar workers could complicate the White House's political calculus. The former president has eroded labor support for Democrats in the Rust Belt, and could try to make further inroads ahead of the 2024 election. Trump's planned Detroit trip was first reported by the New York Times on Monday.

As a matter of policy, experts agree there is no doubt that Biden has done much more to back unions. Trump enacted numerous policies detested by organized labor, weakened the NLRB and approved legislation centered on lower corporate taxes. And Trump has publicly feuded with Fain, ridiculing the union leader and urging union members not to pay dues. In an interview with NBC News that aired Sunday on "Meet the Press," Trump said autoworkers were "being sold down the river by their leadership, and their leadership should endorse Trump," a sentiment he reiterated in a post on Truth Social, the social media network he owns.

Some Michigan Democrats expressed alarm about the notion that Trump could visit a picket line before Biden.

"It would get a bunch of news coverage and free media for Trump. We do not need that," said state Rep. Donavan McKinney, who referred to the prospect as "terrible."

"President Biden can take over the narrative and show that the administration, and Democrats as a whole, are supporting their biggest base, which are unions and the working class," McKinney said. "It would speak volumes ... What can we do to get Biden here?"

State Rep. Jason Morgan added: "I would love to see Biden visit the picket line here in Michigan. ... There is tremendous support for our unions today, and there is no reason not to join our workers in demanding better wages and better working conditions."

Celinda Lake, a Democratic pollster who has worked for Biden, said polling suggests young people, and Black voters particularly, back the UAW and that Biden needs both to win in Michigan in 2024.

"Voters are very supportive of the strike and very supportive of the organizing going on — they really agree with the basic premise that CEOs are hoarding the money and that the prosperity should be spared," Lake said. "I think it's a great idea for him to go."

Not all Democrats think Biden should rush, though.

James Blanchard, who served as the Democratic governor of Michigan from 1983 to 1991, said Biden has made his position on the UAW strike "very clear" and that walking the picket line could set a precedent in which the president is expected to walk many more.

"I'm not sure the president should be marching a picket line — you start one, and you have to do the others. He's weighed in very strongly for the UAW workers," Blanchard said.

Some conservatives also balked at the prospect of the president so visibly taking sides. Traditionally, presidents have sought to play neutral mediator where possible. (Kate Bronfenbrenner, director of labor education research at Cornell University, said Biden would likely be the first president in a century to join a picket line.)

"You're putting the full weight of the federal government on one side of a private dispute, and that's usually not done because we have a vision of fairness in the country and you don't put your thumb on the scale," said Doug Holtz-Eakin, a GOP policy analyst. "It is so far over the line people have lost sight of the boundaries. I think it's really wrong."

Still, some workers said they'd welcome Biden.

Sharifia Fambro, 52, a striking worker at the Ford plant in Wayne, Mich., who makes $19.10 an hour, said she hopes Biden shows up to the picket line to "show his solidarity with the UAW." Fambro, who installs fascias onto Bronco vehicles, added that she believes it would help elevate workers' cause to have the president "show that he knows what we're going through."

Lauren Kaori Gurley contributed to this report.

U.S. News college rankings scramble with new formula

BY NICK ANDERSON



MARK FELIX FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Many public universities, including Texas A&M University, rose in U.S. News & World Report's newly released college rankings.

Many public universities rose in the undergraduate rankings U.S. News & World Report released Monday, while many private ones fell — a sign not of their changing quality but of the changing formula for an annual sorting ritual that in recent years has faced intensifying criticism.

Four of the six schools tied for 47th on the best national universities list illustrated the precipitous ups and downs. For public Virginia Tech, that marked a sudden 15-step climb from its ranking a year ago. Texas A&M University, also public, jumped 20 steps to reach 47th. But for the private University of Rochester, ranking at that level represented an 11-step decline. Wake Forest University, also private, fell 18 steps to land at that point.

Also tied at 47th were private Lehigh University and the public University of Georgia, but their rankings did not change much.

What led to the scramble was a shift in how U.S. News evaluates schools. It no longer considers class size or alumni giving, for example, but it has added a new factor that tracks the graduation rates of first-generation college students at national universities. As ever, the formula continues to rely heavily on a peer evaluation survey that critics say favors wealth and long-standing perceptions of prestige.

The U.S. News lists are a perennial object of chatter and fascination within higher education, prompting envy, scorn or shrugs, depending on the perspective of school leaders, alumni and students who monitor them.

Last fall and winter, many prominent law and medical schools that had grown fed up with the rankings announced they would no longer cooperate. Their revolt affected U.S. News lists of graduate and professional programs released in the spring. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona cheered them on.

"It's time to stop worshiping at the false altar of U.S. News & World Report," Cardona said in March. "It's time to focus on what truly matters: delivering value and upward mobility."

But most major colleges and universities did not follow suit at the undergraduate level. One exception was Columbia University, which announced in June that it would not cooperate with the U.S. News undergraduate rankings.

At the time, Columbia officials lamented the "outsized influence" that rankings may have with prospective students. They also criticized how rankings "distill a university's profile into a composite of data categories" and how "much is lost in this approach." Their statement followed a deep internal reckoning for the Ivy League university in New York. In 2022, Columbia had acknowledged misstating key data about class size and faculty credentials as it climbed to second place on the national universities list.

But even when schools decline to answer questions from U.S. News, the rankings publication uses publicly available information and continues to include them on its lists.

Last year, Columbia ranked 18th on the U.S. News national university list. On Monday, it ranked 12th, tied with Cornell University (which had been 17th) and the University of Chicago (previously sixth).

There were few surprises at the top of this year's list. Princeton University ranked first and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology second, with Harvard and Stanford universities tied for third. That mirrored last year's ranking. Yale University fell ever so slightly, from third to fifth.

But in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, the new ranking formula produced several larger shifts. Among them, the University of Maryland, a public flagship, cracked the top 50, rising nine steps to 46th. American University, previously 72nd, fell to 105th, and Howard University, previously 89th, fell to 115th. Both of those D.C. universities are private. George Mason University, the largest public university in Virginia, rose from 137th to 105th.

Howard's provost, Anthony K. Wutoh, said the formula changes omitted factors that previously favored the university, including class size. Of the lower ranking, he said: "It didn't really have anything to do with a change in the way we're doing business or the quality of our programs."

American University said its graduation and retention rates have held steady, and it questioned why the rankings show such huge gyrations. "The methodology choices and corresponding inexplicable swings in the rankings indicate either the previous methodologies were flawed and needed a dramatic overhaul or that this year's results are unreliable because they are so different from everything US News previously produced," AU spokesman Matt Bennett said in a statement.

DIGEST

EMPLOYMENT

Macy's: Fewer holiday seasonal jobs this year

Macy's said on Monday it would hire more than 38,000 full- and part-time workers for the holiday season — fewer than last year — as the U.S. department store gears up for the busy shopping period.

Companies have been grappling with weak consumer sentiment and higher labor costs even as the U.S. labor market has shown signs of easing.

Macy's had last year said it would hire about 41,000 employees. It hired about 76,000 workers in 2021.

The company plans to hire for its Macy's, Bloomingdale's and Bluemercury stores, as well as its distribution centers.

U.S. holiday sales this year are expected to grow at their slowest pace in five years, as consumers spend cautiously because of shrinking household savings and lingering worries over the economy.

— Reuters

HOUSING

Home-builder index falls to five-month low

U.S. home-builder sentiment fell to a five-month low this month as higher mortgage rates continued to push prospective buyers out of the market.

The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo gauge declined five points to 45 after sliding six points a month earlier. That marked the largest back-to-back decrease in nearly a year.

While builder sentiment had been rising this year through July amid limited resale inventory, mortgage rates above 7 percent risk choking off demand for new homes. Borrowing costs may remain elevated as Federal Reserve officials have indicated they will keep their benchmark rate high for the foreseeable future.

— Bloomberg News

LAWSUITS

Starbucks faces claims of no fruit in drinks

Starbucks was ordered by a federal judge on Monday to face a lawsuit claiming that several of its Refresher fruit beverages lacked a key ingredient: fruit.

U.S. District Judge John Cronan in Manhattan rejected Starbucks's request to dismiss nine of the 11 claims in the proposed class action, saying "a significant portion of reasonable consumers" would expect their drinks to contain the fruit mentioned in their names.

Plaintiffs say Refreshers advertised as containing mango and dragonfruit, pineapple and passionfruit, and strawberry and açai contained none of the fruits.

The plaintiffs Joan Kominis, of Astoria, N.Y., and Jason McAllister, of Fairfield, Calif., said that the main ingredients were water, grape juice concentrate and sugar, and that Starbucks's misleading names caused them to be overcharged.

Starbucks said that the product names described the drinks' flavors as opposed to their ingredients and that its menu boards advertised those flavors.

— Reuters

ALSO IN BUSINESS

As crude futures leap higher, traders and analysts are increasingly talking about prices returning to $100 a barrel. Across the world, premiums for physical barrels are surging. Supplies from the Middle East, Azerbaijan and even Russia are commanding premiums as refiners clamber to make enough diesel ahead of a seasonal ramp-up in demand. Analysts argue that even with crude now in the mid-$90s, many funds remain underinvested in oil, creating the potential for higher prices yet to come. Benchmark Brent has risen more than 30 percent since its nadir in March. Production cuts by Saudi Arabia and Russia have steadily tightened supplies as consumption has surged to a record.

An increase in U.S. commercial banks' borrowings suggests they're uncomfortable losing any more reserves as depositors seek better returns elsewhere, according to Citigroup. After declines in June and July, the largest U.S. banks increased their borrowing in August by 9 percent, or $70 billion, Federal Reserve data shows. The Federal Home Loan Banks system, a general liquidity provider for banks, saw total outstanding debt rise to $1.249 trillion from $1.245 trillion in July. Depositors have been leaving banks of all sizes since the Federal Reserve started raising interest rates 18 months ago, leading to the emergence of higher-yielding alternatives.

— From wire reports

COMING TODAY

8:30 a.m.: U.S. Census releases housing starts for August.

8:30 a.m.: U.S. Census releases building permits for August.

How to avoid getting scammed by the bizarre world of AI-generated goods

BY HEATHER KELLY

There's something off about the black-and-white drawings in "Floral Whispers: Coloring Book for Women."

At first glance, the book is just 26 pages of beautiful women with impressive bone structure, surrounded by or covered in flowers. But look closer and you'll see that some don't have the right number of fingers, or the fingers are elongated to create spooky alien hands.

The $7.95 paperback by author "Der Vive," recently available on Amazon, has all the hallmarks of being generated by artificial intelligence. It's self-published by an unknown author with no internet history. There are no reviews, and it was only listed in the past few months. The images all have some kind of distortion or oddity that is typically associated with AI, such as incorrect body proportions and at least one mix-up between a flower and a breast.

Easily accessible artificial intelligence is changing how we communicate, work and create. Now, it is infiltrating e-commerce as AI-generated self-help books, mugs, wall art and coloring books proliferate in online marketplaces such as Amazon and Etsy. The third-party sellers aren't required to disclose what is AI-generated, and it can be nearly impossible to confirm if something is AI just by appearance. The end result is even more scam products in the already confusing online-shopping landscape. For consumers, that can mean accidentally buying something of low quality or even hurting the livelihood of real artists.

"This is a grift," said Henry Ajder, a researcher and expert on generative AI and deepfakes. "This is just an extension of practices that have existed for a long time. Previously it might have been people stealing other people's artwork and putting it on T-shirts, plagiarizing a book. This is very much the same model with people using AI."

What's wrong with buying AI-generated goods?

There are people, even artists, making AI-generated products or things who are transparent about the process. Other items may not disclose their origins but are so obviously made by AI that it leaves little doubt and even adds to the allure.

"I think the novelty aspect and the uncanny strangeness of AI art can make it very appealing to some people," said Britt Paris, an assistant professor at Rutgers University who studies AI and deepfakes. "I could see people, in the beginning, wanting some sort of freaky-looking art to put on the wall and brag about the fact that it's made from AI."

However, in situations where AI's involvement is not obvious or desired, a product can be a scam, outright fraud and even dangerous, experts say. The sellers are often using AI to cut down on costs and time and to capitalize on popular categories of goods for easy revenue.

Copyright and intellectual property issues around AI are still in the air. The most popular generative AI tools such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, image-generator Dall-E, Google's Bard and Stability AI's Stable Diffusion were trained on content scraped from the internet, including copyrighted images and writing. Original creators — writers, illustrators, artists, reporters and photographers — say they are not being paid or credited for their work.

AI can even be used to impersonate specific creatives.

Many image generators have been used to create art in the style of Polish artist Greg Rutkowski, who makes elaborate fantasy landscapes and has spoken out against AI tools. Author Jane Friedman discovered multiple books published on Amazon that used her name and mimicked her writing style. She believes the books, which have been removed, probably used AI that had been trained using her writing to sound like her and profit off her brand.

When it comes to books, incorrect information can be dangerous. Amazon recently removed a guide on foraging for mushrooms that some readers claimed was generated by AI and could have given incorrect advice about what mushrooms were edible or poisonous.

"The accuracy problem is real," said Ravit Dotan, an AI ethics researcher and adviser. "People don't understand that textual generated AI is not optimized to generate truth. It's optimized to generate text that's compelling."



THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK; DER VIVE

What can be done about AI products?

AI-generated content is not banned at any of the big e-commerce companies that use third-party sellers, including Amazon and Etsy. And as of now, none require any kind of label or disclosure on products that were made primarily using AI tools. The tech companies behind the tools being used to make the words and images aren't required to label things either.

The Authors Guild, which represents many authors whose work has been used to train AI tools, is asking for legislation and pushing companies to disclose when a book is written by AI.

"We see it as consumer protection, but it's also a way to insulate the book marketplace because otherwise, you'll just see an influx of AI-generated content on a platform like Kindle," said Mary Rasenberger, chief executive of the Authors Guild. "It will take away from the market [demand] for human creative works."

Rasenberger said that she doesn't think AI can be held off forever and even sees a place for it as a useful tool for writers. The guild's goal is to make sure AI is regulated, licensed and legitimate, with money going back to authors, she said.

Amazon added a requirement earlier this month that any self-published books that use Kindle Direct Publishing tell Amazon when they are AI-generated. However, as of now, that information is not being shown to shoppers. For consumers, that is a big risk.

"Amazon is constantly evaluating emerging technologies and is committed to providing the best possible shopping, reading, and publishing experience for authors and customers," Amazon spokesperson Ashley Vanicek said in a statement. "All publishers in the store must adhere to our content guidelines, regardless of how the content was created. We invest significant time and resources to ensure our guidelines are followed, and remove books that do not adhere to these guidelines."

(Amazon founder Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post, and the newspaper's interim CEO, Patty Stonesifer, sits on Amazon's board.)

Etsy said that it is also monitoring the new technology but that it has no rules against selling things made primarily with AI. The company says those products will be subject to the same quality standards as other listings. Walmart did not reply to a request for comment.

A number of tech organizations also are rushing to create tools to identify AI output, Dotan said. For example, Google recently announced it was working on a watermarking tool that would be invisible to the human eye.

How can you tell what is AI?

So what can a shopper do? Until there are laws and labels, figuring out what's AI-generated and what's just a weird T-shirt design falls to the buyer. It is not a new role for anyone who has shopped online in the past 10 years. Stores with third-party sellers are awash in knockoffs and poor-quality options, and once-helpful tools like reviews are often overrun with fake positive posts.

As with all scam products online, you will need to fall back on some old-fashioned detective work. AI-generated text and images do have some common tells, but they are not foolproof — especially at the speed AI image and text generators are increasing in quality. ("There are tools today that presume to detect when text is AI-generated, but they're not reliable at all," Dotan said.)

Start by looking through all available product images, including inside page previews for books, and zoom in or read the small print. For images, look at the backgrounds, which can often show more errors than the main subject. If there is a person depicted in the art, look at the hands, ears, eyes and general proportions to see if anything is unusual. Always count the fingers.

For text, look up the author and see if there is any kind of social media presence. Being a self-published author is not a sign something is AI, but books churned out by AI will typically be independently published. The descriptions are frequently created with AI chatbots, so read closely to see if they make sense and are describing the listed product. Check the page count to see if the length makes sense.

"I would look for tells that it is very new in the store and that it seems to imitate something that is very popular and older from a known publisher," said Jacob Metcalf, program director of the "AI on the Ground" initiative at the nonprofit Data & Society. "A pattern I found was the scammers are using common tropes from popular books."

Thoroughly research the sellers, looking at their other products, business names and how long they've been around.

For our likely AI-generated coloring book, the author was unknown, the images were filled with errors, and the full title was a long attempt to capitalize on keywords: "Floral Whispers: A Coloring Adventure for Women A Tribute to Femininity and the Enchanting Beauty of Blooming Florals — An Artistic Honoring of Women and Floral Magic."

Anyone who does just want to color women and flowers would probably be disappointed.

"Whatever AI generates, it will never be as good as human-created stuff. Not if you want anything with voice, meaning or expression," said Rasenberger of the Authors Guild. "AI is always based on prior stuff, there's not magic there. It's just a blender."

The Washington Post | LIVE

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Regulators struggle to rein in Amazon on safety for warehouse workers

BY CAROLINE O'DONOVAN

SAN FRANCISCO — Amazon on Monday began publicly defending its safety record at a hearing in Washington state that follows more than a decade of complaints about workplace conditions across the country.

State labor regulators allege working at Amazon exposes staff to increased risk of ergonomic injury and musculoskeletal disorders as they awkwardly bend and twist to move goods through the warehouse. The company has repeatedly denied the allegations and said its injury rate is improving. Citing a lack of operational change, Washington state has twice charged the company with willfully violating safety standards, citations Amazon has appealed.

At the Monday morning hearing, Amazon called independent ergonomist Dennis Mitchell as its first expert witness, who testified that he disagreed with the state's allegations about safety issues at the company's warehouses.

"The tools they used were not suitable for the work conditions at Amazon," Mitchell said.

The Washington hearing, which began earlier this summer, comes at a moment of unprecedented scrutiny into Amazon's health and safety record. Officials with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) opened a national investigation into ergonomic injuries last year and have since issued more than more than a dozen citations. That effort was announced in coordination with the attorney general for the Southern District of New York, which is looking into allegations that Amazon systematically conceals workplace injuries.

Additionally, a Senate committee chaired by Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) is investigating the rate at which Amazon workers are injured, as well as employee turnover and productivity quotas.

Combined, those efforts have brought more attention to the inner workings of Amazon's warehouse operations. Some labor advocates — who have been focused on unionizing the e-commerce giant for several years — are hopeful these investigations will force the company to change, improving working conditions by reducing the demanding pace and adding more tools to help.

But even though the current enforcement attempts follow years of concerns about working conditions in Amazon's warehouses, state and federal officials continue to struggle to force any substantial changes to the way the company runs its hundreds of warehouses.

"This record of dangerous working conditions has been going on for a long time and nothing seems imminent in terms of change," said Stacy Mitchell, co-director of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. "And OSHA doesn't seem to have sufficient tools to do anything about it."

Amazon denies allegations that it knowingly puts workers in harm's way and that it systematically conceals injuries. Spokesperson Maureen Lynch Vogel said the "vast majority" of safety inspections at Amazon don't result in citations.

"In the minority of cases when there is a citation, we have a right — as does any company — to challenge it and present our case," she said. "And if we do appeal a citation, it's because we disagree with the allegations or the recommended changes aren't appropriate for our type of operations. While we know that there will always be more to do, we're committed to continuous improvement and the data proves we're making significant progress on safety."

(Amazon founder Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post. Interim CEO Patty Stonesifer sits on Amazon's board.)

The renewed focus by federal and state regulators on safety at Amazon has played out amid a particularly trying year for the company. Long known for explosive growth and transforming the way the world shops, in the past year Amazon laid off more than 27,000 people, shuttered departments and killed off some of its innovative but unprofitable experiments. Multiple executives departed, and morale issues have surfaced for some staffers as the company tries to insist they return to the office — a conflict which came to a head with an employee walkout in the spring.

Workplace safety at Amazon first gained national attention in 2011, when a Pennsylvania newspaper reported that warehouse workers were passing out due to extreme heat — prompting ambulances to wait at the ready outside the building. In the years that followed, more complaints, injuries, inspections and citations accrued at Amazon warehouses around the country.

In 2021, The Post reported that Amazon workers were seriously injured at higher rates than at other workplaces in the same industry. Amazon disputed those figures and said its serious injury rates have since declined.

Washington state started building its case against Amazon that same year, when it inspected a warehouse in DuPont and cited the company for ergonomic safety violations. A subsequent investigation at a warehouse in Kent found the pace of work was putting workers at risk of injury. The state alleged Amazon failed to resolve the issues at the warehouse, and in 2022 brought charges of "willful" violations against the company, levying a fine of $60,000. It fined Amazon another $85,000 last month for more willful violations at a warehouse near Spokane. While a willful violation is one of the higher penalties health and safety regulators can levy, it's a small sum for Amazon, which reported $6.7 billion in second-quarter profits.

Amazon appealed the 2022 citation to the Washington Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals. Inspectors with the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) alleged that in addition to putting workers at risk of injury, Amazon prevented inspectors from coming on-site and tried to prevent the agency from recording workplace activity with cameras and electronic monitors, according to news reports.

Vogel, the Amazon spokesperson, denied these allegations, saying, "When we present our case later this month, we look forward to showing that L&I's allegations are inaccurate and don't reflect the reality of safety at Amazon. The truth is that we're always investing in safety and our efforts are working."

Even if Washington wins, the case won't affect other states, said Jordan Barab, the former deputy assistant secretary of labor at OSHA under President Barack Obama. It could, however, serve as a guide.

"It's useful to know in terms of setting precedence for what other states could do, if they were so willing to do that," he said.

There are 21 states with independent health and safety administrations that could follow in Washington's footsteps in pursuit of Amazon, according to Barab. Three states — California, New York and Washington — have passed warehouse worker safety laws aimed in part at regulating its warehouses.

In the year since it announced its national investigation into Amazon, OSHA has fined the company $270,081 for safety violations in more than half a dozen workplaces, according to the agency, which did not immediately respond to a request for comment on this story. The Southern District of New York's attorney general's office became involved because of allegations that Amazon was lying about injury and illness statistics, Barab added. The attorney general's office confirmed its investigation of Amazon is ongoing but declined to provide additional details. Regarding the Justice Department's investigation, Vogel said "OSHA's record-keeping citations confirm that there is no systemic underreporting of injuries."

Vogel said Amazon takes "the safety and health of our employees very seriously" and is appealing OSHA's citations. "The government's allegations don't reflect the reality of safety at our sites," she said.

OSHA is a relatively small organization — the agency has said it would take 160 years to inspect every workplace in the United States. The agency recently reached a $1.35 million settlement with Dollar Tree and Family Dollar over blocked exit routes. The settlement followed a coordinated investigation that went on for six years and led to more than $15 million in fines.

Amazon is a bigger company and OSHA's investigation into injuries is more complicated, said Debbie Berkowitz, former OSHA chief of staff under Obama.

"OSHA is a tiny agency, and these are huge warehouses," Berkowitz said. "The inspections are very labor intensive" and results could take years.

OSHA and the L&I did not respond to requests for comment on this story.

Under President Biden, labor regulators have had the support to pursue companies like Amazon more aggressively, said Georgetown labor historian Joe McCartin, a change from under the Trump administration.

Meanwhile, Sanders's committee is investigating high turnover and underreported injuries, and no report has been released. While Sanders could call an Amazon executive to testify before the committee as he did with Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz over allegations of union busting, ultimately the committee doesn't have enforcement power against Amazon.

"There's not a whole lot a congressional inquiry can do besides the publicity," Barab said.

Amazon said it is cooperating with the congressional committee and that its "invitation to Senator Sanders to tour one of our sites remains open."



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Tahsha Sydnor sorts packages at an Amazon warehouse facility in Goodyear, Ariz., in 2019. State and national investigations are looking into the health and safety record of Amazon's employees.

Wexton details how health challenges collided with her Va. political career

WEXTON FROM A1

but experts say the seat could be back in play without the name recognition, fundraising capacity and political network of an incumbent.

Wexton has tried to process her new normal with the humor and candor that have endeared her to House colleagues, who in interviews said they will miss her liberal voice on transportation, housing and the federal workforce.

During a 90-minute interview Saturday afternoon, Wexton spoke with difficulty, her words garbled and running together, about her career and plans with help from two staffers, often letting the tears flow. Two walking sticks stood in the corner as she rose for water or to grab treats for her dogs, Lady Bear and Wanda.

Wexton announced her previous diagnosis in April on World Parkinson's Day, and planned to remain in Congress, embracing her newfound platform for disability rights. Then she noticed her symptoms were not improving with medication the way she saw in others and sought second and third opinions.

After receiving what she called a "final, unequivocal" diagnosis in late June, she decided to follow through with her already scheduled physical, occupational and speech therapy during the August recess. With significant improvement, maybe she would run again.

"But what became clear was that not only would I not be able to handle the rigors of campaigning in a tough district (hours of daily call time! Campaign rallies! Trackers and attack ads!) even if I could it may have literally killed me. And my life is definitely too short for that!" she said in a text message Saturday evening.

The disease had made public speaking excruciating for the former trial attorney and politician, who had never been one to practice in front of a mirror.

"It's hard for me to speak in a way that people can understand and that they want to listen to. ... I hate the way I sound now. I always have to think about slowing down and enunciating," she said, joking about channeling her inner Anchorman.

Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.) called her a "happy warrior," and recalled how she dressed as Wonder Woman as they marched in the Leesburg Halloween parade in the final days of the 2018 campaign.

"Watching her over the last year and seeing her slowing, I think about that Wonder Woman picture and that really fun event ... and it just makes me sad," he said in an interview.

Yet running for Congress was never part of her plan. There's a "zero percent chance" she would have jumped in without Donald Trump in the White House, she said.

She was content in the state Senate, where she served a total of five years, and relished writing her own bills and being one of 40 lawmakers in the chamber in 2017 when then-freshman Democratic congressman A. Donald McEachin, a former state senator himself, encouraged her to run and sent her a note quoting Thomas Paine.

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman," he wrote. "You and I are not sunshine patriots. Your country needs you. The time has come for all hands on deck."

"I could really use a hug from Donald about now," she said, of McEachin, who died last year after a long battle with cancer.

Inspired, she went on to win a six-way primary and unseated Comstock in a bruising election that ushered in a new generation of progressive lawmakers, including Rep. Abigail Spanberger, a former CIA officer, and former congresswoman Elaine Luria, a Navy veteran, who also flipped red districts in Virginia.

The trio of tough young mothers connected with women voters who wanted stricter gun laws, passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and a higher minimum wage. (Voters were unaccustomed to seeing so many female candidates and Wexton and Spanberger were often mistaken for one another despite looking nothing alike.)

One campaign ad highlighted Wexton's life as a working mom, picking up her growing boys first in a sedan and later a minivan after long days as county prosecutor, lawyer in private practice and candidate. Both taller than her now, Matt, 20 and Jamie, 18, attend George Mason University and come home at least once a week to be with their mom and dad, Andrew, a fourth-grade teacher.

In Congress, where Wexton serves on the Appropriations Committee, she has focused on supporting victims of abuse and domestic violence, research for childhood cancer, and China's human rights violations. She said she is most proud of laws she helped pass in Richmond to help victims of revenge porn file lawsuits, regulate day-care centers and secure a woman's right to breastfeed in public.

She gained national attention by displaying the trans flag outside her Capitol Hill office, in honor of her niece. Last week she asked Spanberger and freshman Rep. Jennifer McClellan (D-Va.) to enter that office through a side door, a sign the meeting would be serious.

"I'm running for governor in 2025," Wexton deadpanned. Both on the shortlist for governor, the women didn't make a sound. Then Wexton laughed, and they all cried.

"This is not the way or the time anyone expected her career in Congress to end, but she's a fighter and I'm going to fight with her," McClellan said.

Wexton and McClellan called each other the "Jennifer caucus" in Richmond and consider each other their first touchpoints when considering higher office or coping with scandal — like when racist photos were discovered on former Virginia governor Ralph Northam's yearbook page.

The three women have a group chat, and on fly-in days when lawmakers arrive from around the country a tradition of sneaking selfies on the House floor, usually a no-no.

"There's just something so tragic about the fact that like she is in her prime, right?" Spanberger said. Even as her speech breaks down, "her sharp wit and incredible intelligence, that's still there, but it's hard for her to process those words and so it's just, really, it's devastating."

For now, Wexton said she is trying to eat well and get as much sleep as possible. An accomplished cook, she makes pesto from the basil thriving on her back porch, which she offers to anyone willing to take some. She spends time with her sister, Suzanne Tosini and sister-in-law, Alison Lepard. And their large extended family is looking forward to a trip to Duck in North Carolina's Outer Banks.

She tries to focus on what's working.

Fixing her gaze on her chief of staff and longtime confidante, Abigail Carter, their eyes red, Wexton said she is determined to tell her story on her own terms.

"It's okay," Wexton assured Carter, before allowing herself to say how it really is. "It's not okay. It's not okay at all. ... I'm going to die, which isn't fair."



KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Rep. Jennifer Wexton (D-Va) kisses her husband, Andrew, on election night after beating incumbent Barbara Comstock and flipping Virginia's 10th Congressional District blue, in November 2018.



COURTESY OF REP. ABIGAIL SPANBERGER

From left, Rep. Jennifer McClellan (D-Va.), Wexton and Rep. Abigail Spanberger (D-Va.) on the House floor earlier this year. Wexton and McClellan called each other the "Jennifer caucus" in Richmond.

House GOP's short-term funding deal already pilloried by the hard right

At least a dozen Republicans express opposition to resolution

BY AMY B WANG, MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR AND MARIANA ALFARO

A deal to temporarily fund the government that House Republicans announced Sunday is already facing pushback from hard-right members of their party, complicating the path that GOP leaders had hoped would avert a government shutdown at the end of the month.

By Monday, at least a dozen Republicans had publicly expressed opposition to the continuing resolution negotiated by members of two GOP factions over the weekend — from posting on social media a simple "NO" to "I'm a HARD NO!" to slamming the short-term funding bill as "a continuation of Nancy Pelosi's budget and Joe Biden's policies."

The proposed legislation would keep the government running until Oct. 31 and trigger a 1 percent cut to current fiscal levels, according to the plan released just before lawmakers were briefed Sunday evening. The 1 percent cut is an average for the federal budget. The departments of defense and veterans affairs would not receive any cuts, while other government agencies would have their budgets slashed by 8 percent until the end of October.

Among those lawmakers who said they would not support the continuing resolution was Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.), a hard-right Republican who has become a strong ally of House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.). Greene criticized the bill for not including enough conservative policies, including a divisive program to verify workers' immigration status.

"No policy riders in the CR. So it's all the policies from last year's Democrat appropriations, with an 8% cut," Greene posted on X, formerly known as Twitter, late Sunday night. "Plus the border bill, but no E-Verify. I'm a NO."

The hard right's growing public opposition to the continuing resolution proposed by GOP lawmakers undercut what had been seen as a small victory after a chaotic week for the House Republican Conference. McCarthy has been hoping to show a united conservative front ahead of inevitable negotiations with the Senate.

On Monday, McCarthy hinted that the House would remain in session through the coming weekend, a signal that Republican leaders will need a lot of time to build support for a government funding bill. Congress has a Sept. 30 deadline to reach an agreement on funding next year's budget or much of the government will shut down.

"This isn't the 30th [of September]. We've got a long ways to go. We've got a lot of different ideas," McCarthy told reporters when asked whether he would be open to working with Democrats to pass a stopgap funding measure. "Inside our conference, we can work on this and we can get this solved."

He also downplayed the opposition within his party to the continuing resolution, suggesting that perhaps some of the holdouts had not yet read the bill. The speaker repeatedly emphasized that the continuing resolution package had been developed by ideologically diverse members of the House GOP.

"We put together a number of members. I led it bottom-up," McCarthy said, rattling off the names of those who had worked on the package: Reps. Dusty Johnson (S.D.), Stephanie I. Bice (Okla.) and Kelly Armstrong (N.D.) from the pragmatic Main Street Caucus; and Reps. Scott Perry (Pa.), Chip Roy (Tex.) and Byron Donalds (Fla.) from the Freedom Caucus.

Their goal now, McCarthy said, was "explaining to all the members" why a 30-day continuing resolution was critical for the GOP's appropriations bills.

"We've got the most conservative bills," McCarthy said. "We want to make sure we're able to cut spending and secure the border. So we're going to talk to our conference to be able to see if we can move forward."

McCarthy cannot afford to lose much support from his party to get the necessary 218 Republican votes for the bill to pass. Because of medical- and family-related absences, McCarthy's four-vote margin in the House could be even smaller in the coming days. Among those likely to miss a vote this week is Rep. Frank D. Lucas (R-Okla.), who is recovering from surgery.

Rep. Anna Paulina Luna (R-Fla.), who had a baby last month, has indicated that she will fly back to Washington if needed — to vote against the continuing resolution.

Rep. Steve Scalise (R-La.), who would support a continuing resolution and is undergoing treatment for multiple myeloma, said last week that he would go so far as to receive chemotherapy in the House to make sure he was present for a vote. Given the conservative provisions included in the proposal, Democrats are not expected to help pass the bill.

"It's hard to pass everything in this place," McCarthy said. "We started out in a five-seat majority. I had one member who's now resigned. We got a couple members who are out as well. Anything we do is pretty tough in life."

Missing from the proposal are requests from President Biden for more than $20 billion in aid for Ukraine and $16 billion in disaster relief. Both Democratic and Republican Senate leaders have said they would tack money for those matters on to any short-term funding bill. Several of the conservative demands are also likely to be rejected by the Senate, pitting the two chambers against each other with less than a dozen days to spare to prevent a partial government shutdown.

While McCarthy has often tried to appease his hard-right flank, he must also earn support from vulnerable incumbents representing swing districts in his conference to ensure that funding bills pass. Deep spending cuts to current fiscal levels would fuel Democratic attack ads highlighting how these Republicans voted in support of cuts to education, food security inspection and more.

Others in the conference remain unconvinced based on policy differences, signaling just how difficult it will be for House Republican leaders and their allies to win over enough support just to send a bill to the Senate, where it is expected to be rebuffed.

Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) on Monday panned the continuing resolution package as "not a serious proposal."

"Last night's proposal in the House can be boiled down to two words: slapdash, reckless," Schumer said. "Slapdash because it's not a serious proposal for avoiding a shutdown, and reckless because if passed it would cause immense harms to so many American people."

Approving a short-term funding bill is the first hurdle that will test McCarthy's leadership. If the House and Senate are able to send a compromise bill to the president's desk — an outcome that currently does not have a pathway given the House's conservative demands — Congress will then have to strike a deal on how to fund the government for the full fiscal year.

Each step comes with demands from far-right lawmakers on political or policy fronts, which continues to make it daunting for leadership to figure out what could pass through their narrow Republican ranks.

Members of the House Freedom Caucus, including those who now support the short-term funding bill, have publicly suggested that they would support a motion to vacate McCarthy as speaker if he relies on House Democrats to pass any bills they want to see approved only by the GOP majority.

Leigh Ann Caldwell contributed to this report.

Trudeau: 'Credible allegations' tie India to killing in Canada

CANADA FROM A1

Minister Narendra Modi at the Group of 20 summit this month.

"Any involvement of a foreign government in the killing of a Canadian citizen on Canadian soil is an unacceptable violation of our sovereignty," he said. "It is contrary to the fundamental rules by which free, open and democratic societies conduct themselves."

The Indian High Commission in Canada — the equivalent of an embassy among Commonwealth nations — did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trudeau's explosive announcement came amid strains in relations between Canada and India. Canadian officials said this week they had canceled a long-planned trade mission to Mumbai next month and paused trade talks. Modi did not hold an official bilateral meeting with Trudeau during the Group of 20 summit, but chided him on the sidelines, according to New Delhi.

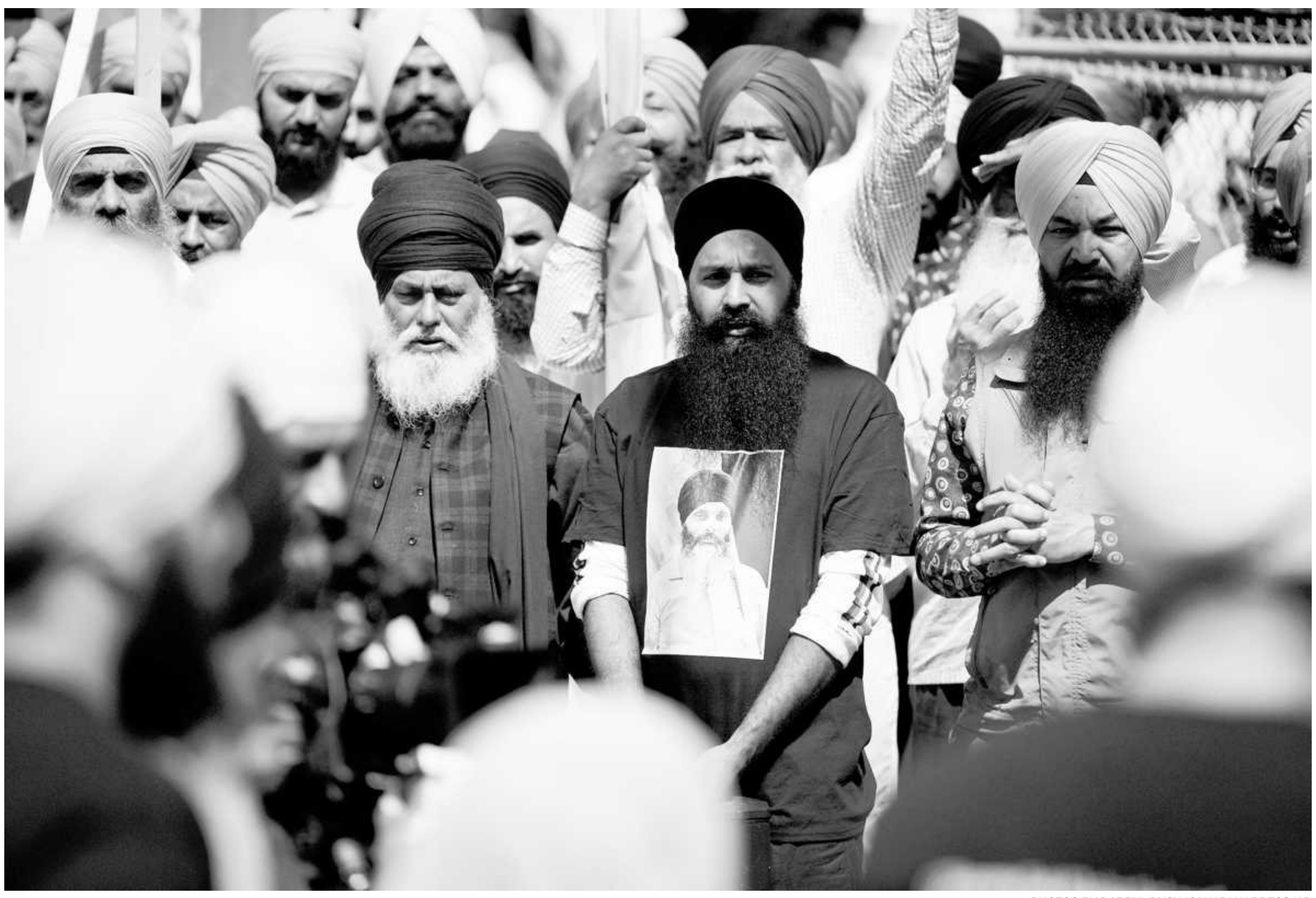
Modi conveyed "strong concerns about continuing anti-India activities of extremist elements in Canada," India's Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement at the time. "They are promoting secessionism and inciting violence against Indian diplomats, damaging diplomatic premises and threatening the Indian community in Canada and their places of worship."

Trudeau said Monday that Canadian authorities were coordinating with their allies in investigating Nijjar's death. He urged the Indian government to cooperate with them "to get to the bottom of this matter."

Mélanie Joly, Canada's foreign minister, told reporters Monday that she had ordered the expulsion of an Indian diplomat whom she called "the head" of Indian intelligence in Canada. She said Trudeau had raised the allegations with President Biden and British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, and that they would be a topic of discussion at the U.N. General Assembly in New York this week.

Dominic LeBlanc, Canada's public safety minister, told reporters that Canadian security officials had made several trips to India in recent weeks to meet with their counterparts about Nijjar's slaying. He did not directly answer repeated questions about whether Indian authorities are hindering Canada's investigation.

Canada is home to one of the world's largest Sikh diaspora communities, and Nijjar's killing on June 18 rattled it. Police called the incident "targeted," and members of the Sikh community said Nijjar told them he had been warned by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service of threats against him.



PHOTOS BY DARRYL DYCK/CANADIAN PRESS/AP



TOP: A mourner wears a shirt bearing a photograph of Sikh leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar during a funeral in Surrey, B.C., on June 25.
LEFT: Mourners carry Nijjar's casket and wave flags of Khalistan, the Sikh state he supported establishing in the Punjab region of India.

The killing sparked protests in Canada and abroad, and some Sikhs said they believed the Indian government, which had labeled Nijjar a "terrorist," was involved.

"The significance of today's announcement cannot be understated for Sikhs," Tejinder Singh Sidhu, president of the World Sikh Organization of Canada, said in a statement. "Today, the prime minister of Canada has publicly said what Sikhs in Canada have known for decades — India actively targets Sikhs in Canada."

Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, Nijjar's lawyer, told The Washington Post that he believed Nijjar was targeted for organizing a planned nonbinding referendum in Canada on whether to create an independent Sikh state in Punjab to be called Khalistan. Pannun called on Trudeau to expel the Indian high commissioner in Canada.

Trudeau on Monday acknowledged that members of the Indo-Canadian community "are feeling angry or perhaps frightened."

"Let us not allow this to change us," he said. "Let us remain calm and steadfast in our commitment to our democratic principles and our adherence to the rule of law."

Indian officials in recent months have sounded alarms about what they see as a potential resurgence of a Sikh separatist movement in Punjab. In April, authorities arrested Amritpal Singh, a self-described separatist, after a month-long chase in which they imposed a partial shutdown of the internet and censored social media. More than 200 alleged affiliates were also arrested amid fears of a revival of a Sikh insurgency that flared in the 1980s.

Posters for protests after Nijjar's death that featured photos identifying Indian diplomats in Canada as his "killers" drew criticism from Indian and Canadian government officials alike. Joly said at the time that Canada would uphold its obligations under international treaties to safeguard diplomats.

Trudeau traveled to India for a week in 2018. The visit was overshadowed by revelations that the Canadian High Commission issued and then rescinded a dinner invitation to Jaspal Atwal, a businessman convicted of trying to assassinate an Indian politician in the 1980s.

The Khalistan movement is outlawed in India, where authorities consider it a top threat to national security, but it has some sympathizers across the majority-Sikh Punjab state and among the large Sikh communities in Canada, Britain and elsewhere.

About 770,000 people in Canada reported their religion as Sikhism in the 2021 census. When Trudeau became prime minister in 2015, his cabinet featured four members of Sikh origin. Jagmeet Singh, the leader of the center-left New Democratic Party, is also Sikh.

Singh, who attended Khalistan rallies before he became party leader, said he grew up hearing stories about India denying visas to members of the diaspora who raised concerns about its human rights record and of people suffering "violence, torture and even death" when they returned.

"I grew up hearing those stories, but to hear the prime minister of Canada corroborate a potential link between the murder of a Canadian citizen on Canadian soil by a foreign government is something I could never have imagined," he told lawmakers after Trudeau spoke. "That safety and security that so many Canadians feel has now been rocked and has been shocked and has been destabilized."

Much of Canada's political debate in recent months has revolved around alleged interference by foreign governments into the country's internal affairs. The debate has focused most prominently on leaks in the Canadian media about alleged meddling by China in the country's elections, but Jody Thomas, the prime minister's national security adviser, has said India is another source of interference.

The Trudeau government, under pressure from opposition lawmakers, announced this month that it would launch a public inquiry into foreign interference. Justice Marie-Josée Hogue has been appointed to assess "interference by China, Russia and other foreign states or non-state actors."

LeBlanc told reporters last week that the inquiry's terms of reference allow Hogue "to follow the evidence and to look at all the countries that are seeking to interfere."

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TUESDAY OPINION

HUGH HEWITT

On originalism, Terry Eastland played the part of a legal sage

The conservative legal movement predates the Federalist Society's 1982 founding and has always included non-lawyers. At its core, the movement believes that the Constitution and its amendments are the nation's highest law: The text was debated and adopted in public, and Americans — not just lawyers — knew what the framers intended, because the documents were written in the plain English of their time. The people, originalists believe, knew exactly what they were doing and what they intended.

The ordinary citizen's understanding is at the heart of originalism, and few people defended this core concept better, or for longer, than Terry Eastland. After an illness of a couple of years, Terry died last Tuesday.

Recruited from his job as the editor of the Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk to write speeches for President Ronald Reagan's first attorney general, William French Smith, Terry stayed throughout Smith's term and into that of Edwin Meese III, who promoted him to lead the Justice Department's always robust and challenging public affairs department.

In an era of great change and tumult within the law, this Texas gentleman worked genially with sometimes combative journalists, striving to make the department's often byzantine workings understandable to reporters and to the public.


Terry Eastland

Terry was particularly skilled at this because he was not a lawyer. He was quite learned in the law — a graduate of Vanderbilt and Oxford, he possessed a sharp intellect and a grasp of the law that was as extraordinary as his writing ability. His capacity for focused research and study seemed boundless. But he was unencumbered by the vanity that burdens many lawyers: the belief that only lawyers can understand the Constitution.

Terry's elegant essays on the law and his books on subjects as diverse as affirmative action and the nature of executive power and the design of the presidency, as well as countless columns and feature articles, poured out over 40 years in too many publications to count. A law review would be well advised to sponsor a symposium on the contributions of non-lawyers to understanding the Constitution; if such a gathering happened, I'd nominate Terry's works as the equal of any commentator's for reach and impact.

Along the way, and after his service in the Reagan administration, Terry would go on to help lead both the conservative American Spectator and the Weekly Standard. He could work with editors and writers alike because he excelled at the particular skills that this requires.

I do not believe Terry had any enemies, which is quite a statement about someone who spent four decades living inside the Beltway. Certainly, the giants of the conservative legal movement knew and respected him. His years at the Justice Department overlapped with not just the big names of that era but also a host of the then-young lawyers who sit today on the highest court — John G. Roberts Jr., Samuel A. Alito Jr. and Clarence Thomas — and others who served in the judiciary and went on to distinguished careers in academia and private practice.

The Reagan era was rich in legal talent, and rookies from those days are still at work in scores of offices, quietly shaping the law and continuing to defend the Constitution. Terry knew and influenced countless members of that generation and did so in the oldest of ways: persuasion.

Terry and his wife, Jill, were married 40 years. Upon retirement three years ago, they moved far northeast; Terry's devoted Sunday school students at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Maryland were sorry to be deprived of his presence, as were the many grateful editors and writers who had long benefited from his deft touch and encouraging word.

If there was a kinder individual laboring inside the Beltway, I can't think who it would be. Terry's life was animated by his Christian faith, and his library resembled nothing so much as the merger of a justice's and a senior pastor's vast collections of primary works and scholarly treatises.

He evangelized his daughter, Katie, into becoming an ardent Atlanta Braves fan; his two grandsons were baptized into that same faith. The Braves' triumph over the Cleveland Indians in the 1995 World Series did not disturb our friendship, which began at National Presbyterian Church in 1983. He was the best sort of friend: always encouraging, always interested, never too busy and never afraid to tell you — quietly — what he really thought.

The era of such figures inside the Beltway — public intellectuals with great minds and a humble demeanor, intent on persuasion and not conquest — has passed. The country and its capital could use a thousand Terry Eastlands.


MOHAMMED DABBOUS/REUTERS

Emad Shargi, Siamak Namazi and Morad Tahbaz, released as part of a prisoner swap between the United States and Iran, in Qatar on Monday.

JASON REZAIAN

Why Biden moved ahead with the Iran hostage deal

Five Americans who have been held hostage in Iran are flying to freedom, accompanied by two of their spouses. Three of them — Siamak Namazi, Morad Tahbaz and Emad Shargi — had for years languished in the notorious Evin Prison.

Their release brings the number of wrongfully detained Americans brought home under President Biden to 35. This demonstrates both the high priority this White House has put on freeing unjustly imprisoned citizens and the reality that hostage-taking by state actors is spiraling out of control. Two more U.S. residents, Shahab Dalili and Jamshid Sharmahd, remain imprisoned in Iran.

In exchange, the United States will release five Iranian citizens either sentenced or with trials pending. And South Korea will transfer to banks in Qatar $6 billion owed to Iran for the purchase of crude oil. Some critics call this transaction a ransom payment. The reality, as usual, is far more complex.

To unpack the details of the deal, I spoke with Brett McGurk, the National Security Council's coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa — and the official who conducted the secret negotiations that led to my own release in 2016. What follows has been lightly edited for length.

Jason Rezaian: How did the Biden administration weigh its decision to make a deal with Iran for the release of the hostages?

Brett McGurk: Absent an arrangement to bring these people home, they would languish in one of the world's worst prisons for many years to come. Some of our citizens had a potential death sentence hanging over them. All of them are now safely out of Iran.

We recognize there will be criticism of the deal, but the president ultimately needs to weigh the terms available through diplomacy against leaving American citizens for years, or even decades, in Evin Prison. In this case, the president made the hard decision to move ahead.

The critics bristle at the thought of Iran being paid to release hostages, even if that money is coming from South Korea.

There is a lot of false information out there. These are funds that South Korea deposited into Iranian accounts during past administrations for the purchase of Iranian oil. Under U.S. sanctions regulations, these funds have been legally available for certain forms of bilateral and humanitarian trade.

These are not frozen funds. Iran spent heavily from similar accounts — in China, Turkey, India — under the last administration. The funds in South Korea were not spent, for reasons specific to South Korea. What we have agreed to do as part of this deal is to transfer the funds from South Korea to a bank in Qatar. And under terms that provide confidence, the funds will be spent only on a limited category of humanitarian trade: food, medicine and agricultural products. That's it.

The funds are subject to more legal restrictions now than when they were in South Korea. And for any transactions, funds are used to pay vendors for the humanitarian goods. No funds whatsoever are going into Iran.

These details matter. We took time to get the details right.

> *'Absent an arrangement to bring these people home, they would languish in one of the world's worst prisons for many years to come.'*

Some of the loudest critics of this deal claim the Trump administration was able to get Iran to release U.S. citizens without offering concessions.

Dual-citizen cases are the most difficult cases. There were no dual citizens released during the last administration. The deal today involves five dual citizens and two of their family members. As for the American citizens that were released in the last administration, there were trades made — and there were trades made for pretty significant individuals that Iran wanted back and returned to Iran. All that was happening while Iran was benefiting from funds in accounts that are nearly identical to those we just moved to Doha and that we are placing under even stricter terms than existed years ago.

I'm not criticizing the last administration. These are hard decisions for any president. But let's be honest about the facts.

Critics believe deals like these embolden Iran, rather than deterring its aggression in the region.

When we entered office, Americans were under fire in Iraq and Syria nearly every week. You may recall that three months before the election, the former secretary of state threatened to close down our embassy in Baghdad. Shortly thereafter, the embassy suffered its largest rocket attack in nearly a decade.

The notion that Iran was deterred before President Biden entered office is baseless. President Biden very early ordered airstrikes against the groups attacking our troops. This past March, after a long period with no attacks, we tragically saw the first American killed in an Iranian-sponsored attack in Syria. The president immediately ordered an attack against a facility used by the IRGC [Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps] in Syria. There have been no attacks since. And we are fully prepared to respond should that change.

Separately, we have issued about 30 rounds of new sanctions in the last year alone, increased our military presence in the gulf, and have built international coalitions to isolate Iran in international forums, removing Tehran from the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, for example.

Given the timing of the deal around the anniversary of the killing of Mahsa Amini and the protests, some critics suspect that this prisoner deal is part of a larger reopening of discussions with Iran on other issues. Is that true?

This deal was not linked to nuclear diplomacy. It was negotiated separately, in Doha. At the same time, we have told the Iranians in no uncertain terms that diplomacy cannot meaningfully advance if American citizens are being wrongfully detained.

Similarly, if Iran is escalating conflicts in the region, or supplying drones to Russia for its war on the Ukrainian people, this makes the prospect for meaningful diplomacy hard to envision. We have made that clear to Iran repeatedly and consistently. The nuclear talks to date have stalled, and while we will not shut the door to diplomacy altogether, we are also prepared for any and all potential contingencies with respect to Iran's nuclear program.

This deal does not change our relationship with Iran. Iran is an adversary and a state sponsor of terrorism. We will hold them accountable wherever possible. This is why the president spoke out on the anniversary of Mahsa's death and we rolled out 30 new sanctions designations.

Are you hopeful that we'll see a day that Iran stops taking hostages like this?

No. Not under the current system.

We will do our best to deter this outrageous conduct of detaining foreign nationals. Today, we are issuing new sanctions under the Levinson Act, both against the Ministry of Intelligence and Security and against Iran's former president [Mahmoud] Ahmadinejad. You're going to see those kinds of efforts continue.

But the only way to ensure you are not taken into custody in Iran is by never traveling to Iran. Do not go there for any reason. We really cannot be clearer on this. We recognize people have families in Iran or other reasons to visit. But don't do it. We are prepared to work with Congress on ways to further deter any American passport holder from traveling there.

RAMESH PONNURU

A GOP plan to raise the minimum wage is also a bid for immigration reform

Republicans have talked a lot in recent years about becoming a "workers party," without having much of an agenda to match the rhetoric. A new Senate proposal aims to start changing that.

The bill would raise the federal minimum wage from $7.25 to $11 per hour while also requiring employers to check that their employees are legally authorized to work in the United States. Both halves of the bill have faced Republican resistance in the past, largely because of business opposition. But the bill's sponsors span the Republican spectrum in the Senate: Mitt Romney (Utah), Tom Cotton (Ark.), J.D. Vance (Ohio), Susan Collins (Maine), Shelley Moore Capito (W.Va.) and Bill Cassidy (La.) are all on board. That group includes moderates, traditional conservatives and populists, Republicans who back Donald Trump and Republicans who voted to convict him and disqualify him from office.

The immigration portion of the bill reflects the priority the party has come to place on blocking illegal immigration. Republicans have in the recent past tended to emphasize enforcing the laws at our borders, but enforcement at the workplace must also be part of any immigration-control strategy. Many illegal immigrants came here legally but then overstayed their visas to keep working here.

The bill would require employers to use the federal E-Verify system to hire only legally authorized employees. Good-faith use of the system, in return, immunizes businesses from liability if illegal workers slip through. The E-Verify idea got its start with a commission appointed by President Bill Clinton and has garnered support from red-state Democrats within recent memory, although those Democrats have mostly been replaced by Republicans. The Department of Homeland Security's estimates suggest it's a reasonably accurate system, with less than 8 percent of flagged employees proving to be authorized to work in the United States.

This part of the proposal might unlock the door to other immigration reforms. Many Republicans, judging from polls, are open to granting legal status to illegal immigrants who have put down roots and avoided trouble in our country. But they worry that any such amnesty will lead to more illegal immigration. An assurance that the laws will be enforced, including on employers, might help allay this fear.

Reducing the use of illegal labor should also help low-wage workers (including legal immigrants), which makes the immigration proposal complementary to the minimum-wage increase. Any such increase would draw the traditional objections. Libertarians think that if consenting adults are willing to agree on a low pay rate, the government should not get in the way of their arrangement. But our society crossed that bridge 85 years ago and has not looked back.

The mainstream concern about raising the minimum wage is that it will increase unemployment. In 2021, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that a $15 minimum wage, which Democrats have been pushing for, would reduce employment by the equivalent of 1.4 million jobs. But the increase these Republicans favor would be more modest, which suggests the negative effects on employment would be, as well.

The current minimum wage of $7.25 per hour was set in 2009. Inflation since then has reduced its value. Raising it to $11 would essentially restore the old level. The bill would also index the minimum wage to inflation, protecting its real value from future erosion and fulfilling the policy's goal of guaranteeing a basic standard of living for workers.

The increase might, of course, be too small to win Democratic support. But even a supporter of a larger increase should conclude that a partial victory beats a continued standoff. And whether or not it passes, the proposal is a sign that Republicans might be recovering their ability to engage in creative and constructive policymaking.

The Washington Post
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EDITORIALS



MOHAMMED DABBOUS/REUTERS

Emad Shargi, right, released as part of a prisoner swap between the United States and Iran, arrives at Doha International Airport in Qatar on Monday.

Five Americans today. How many tomorrow?

The return of hostages from Iran is cause for celebration, but the cost is great.

The homecoming this week of five Americans held in Iran's notorious Evin Prison is a relief for them, their families and friends. They can begin to heal after the trauma of their unjustified incarceration and their years of suffering. But, celebrations aside, their release is a reminder of the nature of the Iranian government — and that authoritarian regimes, with little regard for law or life, have continued to engage in state-sponsored hostage-taking, a barbaric practice that thrives on rewards and concessions from the United States and other nations.

In this case and others, such as Brittney Griner's wrongful detention in Russia, the United States has taken pragmatic steps to save those imprisoned. These kinds of negotiations are never easy, and there is a strong hold-your-nose aspect to saving Americans stuck in stinking cells, incommunicado and without hope. These sorts of deals reward noxious regimes and encourage more hostage-taking.

The Biden administration agreed to swap five Iranians for five Americans and unlock $6 billion in Iranian oil revenue held in South Korea. The five Iranians receiving clemency had been charged with or convicted of nonviolent crimes, such as circumventing sanctions and, in one case, breaking the Foreign Agents Registration Act. According to the White House, two of the five have been in prison, with sentences about to expire; three were awaiting trial. But, make no mistake, there is no equivalency here: The Americans were arbitrarily and unjustly imprisoned in Iran, while the Iranians were charged or punished for violations in a nation governed by rule of law.

The Biden administration insists the $6 billion will be disbursed for humanitarian purposes only, under strict monitoring. But it is not without benefit for the economically strapped Iranian regime — it will undoubtedly free up other funds to spend on more nefarious purposes, such as buying weapons.

President Biden vowed to "remain unflinching" in his determination to repatriate Americans who have been wrongfully detained abroad, and noted correctly that "too many remain unjustly held in Russia, Venezuela, Syria, and elsewhere around the world." Left unsaid is that these regimes see hostages as a currency to be traded for future gain, a dirty trafficking in humans by governments. Look no further than Russia, where Ms. Griner's release in a Dec. 8 prisoner swap was followed by the detention on March 29 of Wall Street Journal correspondent Evan Gershkovich, an accredited journalist who had worked in Russia for six years. He is clearly a hostage, nothing less.

The harsh truth is that rewarding hostage-taking breeds more of the same. Rogue states clang the jail door shut and wait for the next payoff, and they almost never suffer consequences for stealing people off the street. The best deterrent would be for the United States and other nations to refuse to negotiate for the release of such hostages. But that has proved unattractive for U.S. officials, who have struck unbalanced deals to free innocent Americans from foreign cells. Such decisions can only inspire a mix of understanding and regret.

Optimists might regard the latest deal as a prelude to a thaw in the hostility between the United States and Iran. Yet it should also remind Americans of why they should treat Iran with extreme caution. Iran is now allied with Russia in the export and manufacture of deadly drones that are exploding on civilian targets in Ukraine, killing innocent people as they sleep. At home, the theocracy has confronted a year-long protest movement, led by women and students, with relentless coercion and violence. The demonstrators have demanded an end to obligatory wearing of a headscarf in public, a simple liberty, and they have been met with shooting, punishment and arrests. Mr. Biden sought to revive the Iran nuclear deal that President Donald Trump abandoned in 2018, but the effort collapsed in August 2022, when Tehran balked at the final terms.

A thaw might revive those discussions. But, at every step, U.S. officials will have to evaluate with moral and practical clarity whether the price is really worth paying.

No reason to renegotiate

Mr. McCarthy can prevent a shutdown by sticking to the deal he already made.

A deal already exists to avert a U.S. government shutdown. It's the debt ceiling compromise that was agreed to in May by House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) and President Biden. The deal was a true middle ground: Mr. Biden and other Democrats agreed to spending cuts on domestic programs in 2024 and 2025 and a reduction in IRS funding in exchange for House Republicans raising the debt limit and forgoing deeper cuts. Both sides gave a little, and the result was some real (though modest) savings. As a new budget year approaches in October, all lawmakers have to do is follow the spending levels they agreed to earlier this year.

Yet far-right lawmakers are demanding a renegotiation, insisting on substantial cuts to everything but defense and veterans aid — the things they did not get earlier this year — and threatening a government shutdown if they do not get their way.

Mr. McCarthy does not have to bow to these lawmakers' demands. He can stick to the previous agreement, passing a budget with some votes from House Democrats, and avoid an Oct. 1 shutdown.

Instead, Mr. McCarthy has tried to get his far right on side, proposing a budget that would slash funding for everything other than defense or veterans by 8 percent. That means cuts to education, transportation, national parks, public health and even law enforcement, among other popular and widely used programs. The bill would fund the government only through October, meaning there would be another hostage-like situation over the 2024 budget again this fall — during which the new, lower spending levels would no doubt be the basis for further demands.

When House Republicans pushed such cuts earlier this year, the Democratic-controlled Senate and the White House balked. They will not agree to them now. Whatever Mr. McCarthy is doing, it's not a serious effort to address this reality.

In contrast, the deal Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Biden worked out in May is fair and reasonable: It boosts funding for defense and veterans while essentially flat-funding the rest of the federal government for two years. It will produce roughly $180 billion in savings for those two years, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

The Freedom Caucus tries to portray its latest maneuvering as an attempt to restore fiscal prudence as the national debt tops $33 trillion. It's not. Tackling the nation's debt burden requires putting everything on the table: tax hikes, budget cuts, and reforms to Social Security and Medicare. So far, House Republicans refuse to do that — or even launch a bipartisan commission to engage in big, meaningful discussions. The GOP was also silent on this issue during President Donald Trump's tenure, when the budget expanded rapidly.

House Republicans might calculate that forcing a shutdown would show their constituents that they are fighting the Democrats and, once ended on what would have to be a bipartisan basis, do little ultimate harm to the country. This is wrong. A shutdown would shake confidence in U.S. leadership at home and abroad at a critical time. It would also reinforce why Fitch recently downgraded U.S. debt: Washington's ongoing political brinkmanship that doesn't tackle the drivers of the nation's fiscal problems.

The public needs to see this legislative impasse for what it is: Members of the House Freedom Caucus are demanding a restructuring of a fair bipartisan compromise, and the speaker is accommodating them. If there isn't movement soon, Mr. McCarthy needs to find votes across the aisle to make up for the holdouts in his caucus.

MICHAEL RAMIREZ



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@washpost.com

No taxes for a new stadium

Regarding the Sept. 14 Metro article "House to vet bill that may get NFL back at RFK site":

D.C., Maryland and Virginia are competing to woo the Washington football team's new billionaire owners to build a new stadium in their respective jurisdiction. No doubt, the new owners are delighted at this predictable foolishness.

What if, instead of shoveling taxpayer-funded welfare to these billionaires, D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D), Maryland Gov. Wes Moore (D) and Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) united to deliver a reasonable and responsible message? Such as "We're pleased that the team's new owners clearly are able to finance whatever plans they have for the team's future."

Our leaders could then direct our hard-earned tax dollars toward alleviating child poverty, investing in the region's critical bus and rail systems, subsidizing low-income housing, raising teachers' salaries and otherwise investing in human health and safety in our communities.

Now that would be leadership.

Joy M. Oakes, *Arlington*

Mr. Bennett, my role model

Regarding the Sept. 14 Metro obituary for Robert S. Bennett, "Lawyer known across Washington for getting politicians out of jams":

In 1973, when my legal career was in its infancy, Bob Bennett was one of the first lawyers I encountered on the other side of a case. Only a decade ahead of me, he had already achieved the position of prominence and respect in the D.C.-area legal community of a lawyer with twice his experience. The unfailing decency and courtesy Mr. Bennett extended to me, without a hint of the vast disparity in our experience and standing in the profession, made an indelible impression — and I resolved to emulate his gracious manner in my dealings with my adversaries.

Unbeknownst to him, Mr. Bennett became the first of many of my role models in the practicing bar, and I followed his career over the years as he ascended to the very peak of the profession. His memorial said, "Bob was a principled, loyal, honest, witty and loving man who touched many lives." One of them was mine.

Joseph A. Condo, *Vienna*

Plenty of room to negotiate

In her Sept. 14 op-ed, "The high price of Medicare's price 'negotiation,'" Megan McArdle reported that "a number of drugmakers have already announced they're cutting back on development candidates in response to the new controls, and estimates from the Congressional Budget Office suggest that, thanks to the cost-control measures in the Inflation Reduction Act, we'll end up with perhaps a dozen fewer drugs over the next couple of decades."

My wife and I both worked in research laboratories developing drugs and biologics; she for her career and I for a couple of years. We know firsthand that the ratio of marketable products to the enormous time and money spent on unsuccessful investigations is very low.

Left unsaid as the third leg of the economic debate is that drug companies spend enormous amounts advertising products on TV and in print. The public cannot simply purchase prescription drugs in the way they buy shoes and food. The expectation is that people will hound their physicians into writing prescriptions that they might otherwise not. This strategy raises ethical concerns for best-practice medicine. Of course, pharmaceutical companies also spend vast sums on direct solicitation of physicians, partly justifiable as education but primarily to secure prescriptions for their products. When these promotional costs are considered, the costs of pharmaceutical research come into better focus. Also to be considered is the enormous amount of federal money supporting such research.

There is ample room for drug companies to adjust how they invest their money into research and advertising and for the government to contribute greater or lesser amounts into research.

George Perry Hoskin, *Burtonsville*

Megan McArdle spouted the gospel from Big Pharma that using price controls on prescription drugs for Medicare in the United States will stifle the creation of new drugs. Shouldn't we also consider the fairness of U.S. consumers footing the development costs of new pharmaceuticals?

Perhaps it would alleviate Ms. McArdle's concerns about price controls if the government offered to pay whatever is the lowest price the manufacturers charge internationally for a given drug. That sounds fair.

Rob Rudick, *Takoma Park*

A reasonable proposition

I read with absolute astonishment the Sept. 14 editorial "Republicans cheapen a vital power of the House." The editorial stated that "some on the far left tried to impeach President George W. Bush on unreasonable grounds." Mr. Bush misled the country about weapons of mass destruction, waged a war against a sovereign country (without U.N. approval) and caused the deaths of thousands of innocent people in the process.

If that's an unreasonable proposition, then the criteria for impeachment need to be reevaluated.

Anthony Salemi, *Alexandria*

Manufacturing is improving

To indict "Bidenomics" as a failure and declare U.S. manufacturing stagnant, Catherine Rampell cited in her Sept. 11 op-ed, "'Bidenomics' is manufacturing problems for itself," an index that's more reflective of consumer spending patterns and the Federal Reserve's interest rate policies than any policy of President Biden's. It's more than a little misleading.

His manufacturing policies are, in fact, working. There's a record boom in factory construction, and the United States is poised to be a major semiconductor producer for the first time in 30 years. What's more, after a long delay, U.S. workers are again in the race to manufacture electric vehicles and other high-value clean-energy products.

The point is not to somehow re-create the manufacturing economy of the 1950s but rather to build for a modern one. The results so far are lower unemployment, more jobs in the manufacturing industries that will shape this century and surprising economic strength as much of the rest of the world struggles.

Though it's true that the sector is smaller relative to the overall U.S. economy than it was 50 years ago, factories still punch above their weight. Just visit a factory town to see the impact on the rest of the community: new retail stores, more jobs and better wages.

Scott N. Paul, *Washington*
The writer is president of the Alliance for American Manufacturing.

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ALEXANDRA PETRI

FOUND: Fighter Jet

Hypothetically, if a plane followed me home, looking lost and confused, would I need to contact the U.S. military immediately?

I know that an F-35 fighter jet was missing (the pilot ejected and is in stable condition) on Monday and the military had asked for help finding it, saying the stealth fighter might still be roving the sky on autopilot somewhere in the environs of South Carolina. But, hypothetically, how long could someone wait before reporting it if she, say, had been followed home by a very friendly, slightly disheveled plane?

Let me tell you what happened.

At first, I thought the plane was nothing because it was so stealthy. I was on my bicycle, going home, when I heard a sort of stealthy hum overhead, what I would describe as "a jet trying to sneak home after curfew." The mysterious hum followed me for several blocks. Finally, I said, aloud, "I was just going home to re-watch 'Top Gun' for a fifth time. Just the plane parts. I will fast-forward through the volleyball parts, and I could sure use some company." And then when I looked up, I could see the plane. It looked lost and hungry. Its ailerons were drooping.

"My house isn't far," I said. "It's okay, little buddy!" I wanted to keep it calm, so I muttered reassuring things ("I couldn't detect you at all before! You're such a stealthy fellow!") as I pedaled home, periodically looking up to see whether it was still following me. Its tail was already up in an encouraging way.

It landed gently on top of my house. I projected "Top Gun" onto my garage, and the plane emitted contented little huffs of exhaust whenever Tom Cruise showed up on-screen, while I looked around to see what would make a good snack for a jet in its condition. I quickly Googled "what do planes eat," but the answers varied widely from plane to plane, and I was not sure exactly what breed of plane I was working with and did not want to make it sick by mistake.

> *I know this might be the jet the U.S. military was looking for, but I have a lot of questions I want answered before releasing it to its prior owner.*

Finally, I decided money was a good start. I know that F-35s like to ravenously consume huge amounts of money, so after a little deliberation, I found the birthday card I had received from the aunt and uncle who still insist on sending a dollar for each year and offered the jet a couple of bills, lighting each on fire. It gobbled them right up and seemed to feel a little better.

I know that planes of this nature need a lot of runway (although they are capable of vertical takeoff, it isn't as comfortable for them and can be very tiring), so I thought I should take it someplace where it could taxi around to its heart's content and maybe get a little bit of exercise in while I figured out what to do. I took it to a large enclosure not too far away, where it could roam freely, roll over and fetch tennis balls without the risk of getting into any dogfights. I was glad I did. It was a very friendly plane and immediately began nesting, building itself a military-industrial complex and picking up shiny bits of metal and storing them in its bomb bays. It kept bringing me selected targets (a squirrel, a mail truck, a Target), but I said, "Bad jet! No!" and it settled down. It's clearly a well-trained jet that deserves a good home. Its fuselage looks glossy and well-maintained.

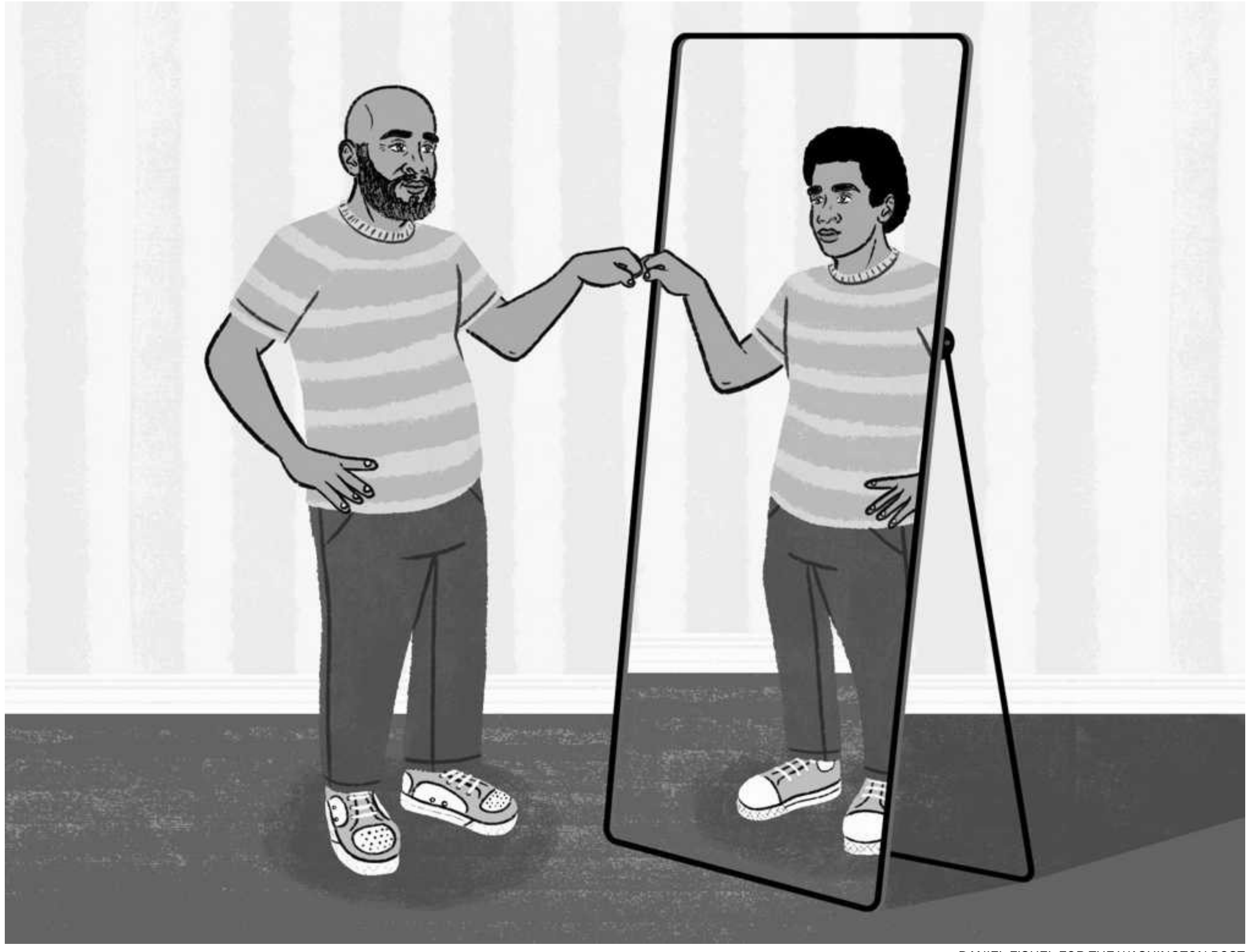
I know this might be the jet the U.S. military was looking for, but I have a lot of questions I want answered before releasing it to its prior owner. I think a jet's owners need to be responsible, even if it is a purebred jet that can cost in some cases over $100 million. I understand that you don't have to keep your jet on a leash everywhere it goes, but then the least you can do is install an absolutely reliable tracker. A jet its size, with its needs, should not be wandering around on its own. It might get into a bad situation with a smaller, more aggressive plane, or a bigger plane that was on-leash.

Also, I hate to say this, but I was Googling the U.S. military and its record of caring for its F-35s, and I was not at all satisfied with what I saw! This is not the first one to suffer an unexpected mishap, nor the only one in South Carolina. Nor is it even the most expensive. I know that some breeds have issues; I used to have a bulldog! But if you bring a breed with these needs home, one that has a single engine and is vulnerable to fire and something called "wing drop," you have to be ready to step up to the task! That's all.

Hang on, the plane just loaded something into its payload area, and I'm not sure what it was; I might need to get it out.

If it isn't the missing F-35, I would sure like to keep it! I know that rescue jets are much more ethical to own than the ones that come from jet mills and breeders, and I think if I add a significant amount of runway to my home, I could make it happy, as long as I could accustom it to eating more humble feed than it is used to. I have already named it Stealthy.

Update: *So, they have located what they need of the plane, they say? And that was all they were missing, they say? Just the one? Good, then. Never mind my hypothetical!*



DANIEL FISHEL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

THEODORE R. JOHNSON

My day spa treatment? Coming to terms with middle age.

A recent birthday brought a realization long apparent but actively ignored: I am middle-aged. The younger element of Gen X, in which I claim proud membership, still believes the 1980s — when we were in grade school — were just 20 years ago. Somehow, we can think this while also laughing with friends that there's no way our 30th high school reunion is this year. If it's true that you are as young as you feel, Gen X will always feel like we just turned 28.

By feel, I do not mean physically. Our bodies are quick to remind us which part of life we're in. My first indication was "the thinning," a receding hairline beginning to blossom into a baldness that's reached my ears. Gone are the days of fast-growing hair that I tamed with pomade and Luster's Pink. Next came the puffs of skin around my eyes and the discoloration of my jawline from shaving my kind of hair on my kind of skin every day for decades.

To address these concerns, I did something the 28-year-old me would've found hilarious: On my birthday, I went to a day spa and got a facial. That's hard even to type. But it was a great experience. My aesthetician was gentle, until she targeted the pores on my nose. That was painful — Jesus took the wheel at least twice. On the way out, I shared my concerns about the eye puffs and skin with her. I left with eye cream and something called toner. This is 48.

Trying to age gracefully now means the exact opposite of what it means in youth. To age gracefully as a teen and young adult often means managing and styling the body's abundance — hair, metabolism, intellect. In middle age, it's about managing emerging scarcities — whether hair or short-term memory or the body's ability to burn a calorie. Everyone warned of the need to wear sunscreen, but my head is not only bald, it is hard. I didn't listen, and soon earned the sunburned bald guy badge. To be middle-aged is to have two weeks of exercise and healthy diet undone simply by *thinking* about beer and wings, or, God forbid, a slice of red velvet.

Before middle age, I could take health and recovery for granted. About a decade ago, at an annual physical, the doctor told me that prostate exams begin at 50, but Black men are at higher risk and should start a decade sooner. He said the exam was digital. Naturally, as a Gen X man, I thought of a digital alarm clock (as in, no hands) from the 1980s — just 20 years ago. I prepared to brave the cold gel of the ultrasound machine for the sake of my health. My resolve was immediately tested. The doctor meant digital as in the digits — fingers — on a hand. Which, to me, is manual. But — tomato, tomahto — no matter; I deferred my eligibility.

Then, cancer grabbed my mom. One mark of being middle-aged that a day spa can do nothing about is the terrible scar from losing a parent. I wear that badge, too. Health suddenly feels precious. At middle age, the scale tips out of your favor: Aches linger longer, often arriving for no reason and satisfied by no treatments.

When one pain in particular hung around a bit too long and brought some buddies with it, the mantra of younger Gen X me — "tough it out, grin and bear it" — was left behind in an AOL instant message somewhere. Off to the doctor I went, and she sent me away with referrals and follow-on appointments to make. I found my grandmother's words in my mouth once the all-clear was given: "I thank God for my health and my strength." I suddenly understood the sigh that often preceded her words, a sigh that holds something only age confers. This time, mine did, too.

That is another telltale sign of middle age: You begin to look and sound like your people from previous generations. And the way we looked at them in our youth is the way young people look at us today. I wanted to think otherwise. People who call the rap songs I blasted in college "old school" — and do so with a touch of reverence — certainly must view Gen X as the cool uncles and aunties. After all, the original old school rap belonged to the 1980s of my childhood, which, again, was just 20 years ago. I tested the proposition, only to learn that a lot of millennials and Gen Z have major problems with my generation.

Am I now the middle-aged dude rankled about kids on his lawn? Yes. Yes, I am.

This is the rhythm. We make room for the future by moving up and, inevitably, out. We become different, hopefully better, versions of those who came before us. Perhaps this is the proper meaning of aging gracefully. We'll keep the toner and sunscreen at hand, however, to help us look the part.

My fellow Republicans: One disgraceful impeachment doesn't warrant another

BY KEN BUCK

The House is back in session, and Americans are getting an up-close look at Washington's dysfunction. We are barreling toward a government shutdown without making progress on cutting our out-of-control spending. Yet Republican leadership has decided to divert attention to an impeachment inquiry into President Biden.

The GOP's charge against Biden is that he personally benefited from his son's deplorable business exploits around the globe. Without doubt, Hunter Biden's shady business deals undermined America's image and our anti-corruption goals, and his conduct was thoroughly reprehensible. What's missing, despite years of investigation, is the smoking gun that connects Joe Biden to his ne'er-do-well son's corruption.

My fellow Republicans leading the House inquiry believe the connection comes through the 2016 firing of Ukrainian prosecutor Viktor Shokin, which then-Vice President Biden helped facilitate.

The dominant narrative in right-wing media is that Shokin was an anti-corruption zealot with an active investigation into Burisma, the company where Hunter Biden held a seat on the board of directors, and from which he reportedly received large monthly payments.

The truth about Shokin is much more complicated and runs counter to the GOP's "gotcha" narrative. In reality, Shokin was deeply enmeshed in Ukraine's culture of corruption and, far from being a beacon of transparency, was viewed by many in the West — including some conservative Republican senators — as an obstacle to anti-corruption reforms. There is, in fact, no evidence that Shokin was engaged in an investigation of Burisma, or that Joe Biden's role in his firing was in any way connected to Burisma.

Much attention has been focused on a speech Biden delivered in December 2015 before Ukraine's parliament, in which he explicitly called for change at the prosecutor general's office. Far from being out of line with U.S. policy, Biden's remarks were entirely within the U.S. government's paradigm of helping

> *What's missing, despite years of investigation, is the smoking gun that connects Joe Biden to his ne'er-do-well son's corruption.*

Ukraine break free from its lawless Soviet past. Other senior officials, including U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt, made the case during the same period for firing Shokin.

The European Union, which necessarily pays a great deal of attention to the politics and policies of neighboring Ukraine, was also of the opinion that Shokin should be sacked. Shokin had been the biggest barrier to the E.U.'s years-long efforts to encourage rule-of-law reforms in Ukraine.

These facts — like all facts — are stubborn things.

Republicans in the House who are itching for an impeachment are relying on an imagined history. Their inquiry, formally announced by Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) last Tuesday, rests heavily on a fictitious version of Shokin's career, with the alleged investigation of Burisma at the center. It's a neat story, and one that performs well in certain media circles. But impeachment is a serious matter and should have a foundation of rock-solid facts.

Does this flimsy excuse for an impeachment sound familiar? It should.

In 2019, the Democratic-controlled House, led by then-Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), pursued an impeachment of President Donald Trump on the loose allegation of a quid pro quo — again involving Ukraine and Shokin. The Democrats alleged that Trump called Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to pressure him into examining the theoretical connection between Hunter Biden's payments from Burisma and Shokin's firing. Trump ultimately did withhold aid from Ukraine, consistent with the U.S. government's long-standing policy of tying aid to anti-corruption reforms. But the Democrats were off and running.

I joined my Republican colleagues then in denouncing that impeachment. It was, as we argued at the time, an inversion of our own rule-of-law system. The Democrats had their man and found a pretext to impeach him.

Trump's impeachment in 2019 was a disgrace to the Constitution and a disservice to Americans. The GOP's reprise in 2023 is no better.

The writer, a Republican, represents Colorado's 4th Congressional District in the House.

KAREN TUMULTY

A Texas-size travesty foretells a GOP civil war

"Let it be known. Let it be clear now. The Bush era in Texas ends today."

So much for the mountain of damning evidence in the impeachment trial of Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. That statement in the closing argument of his defense attorney Tony Buzbee was a naked appeal to the tribalism that has reshaped the once-rational GOP in Texas.

It was also a warning shot, and it worked to devastating effect. After eight hours of "deliberation," the Texas Senate on Saturday acquitted Paxton of all 16 charges of bribery, unfitness for office and abuse of office on which the Republican-controlled House had overwhelmingly voted to impeach him in May.

Paxton's chief accusers had been a cadre of his former aides who were fired when they reported him to the FBI for using state resources on behalf of a friend and political benefactor. Paxton was audacious enough to ask Texas taxpayers to foot the bill for the $3.3 million out-of-court settlement he reached with the whistleblowers.

That the fix was in for the attorney general in the Senate probably should have been apparent back in July. That's when a campaign finance report revealed that a pro-Paxton political action committee, known as the Defend Texas Liberty PAC, had donated $1 million and made an additional $2 million loan to Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who would preside over the impeachment trial.

Yes, you read that right: The person acting as judge took $3 million from the defendant's deep-pocketed allies. Was it any wonder that only two Republicans in the Senate, where the lieutenant governor serves as president of the chamber, voted to convict?

And what, you might reasonably ask, does any of this have to do with the Bushes?

Last year, Paxton easily defeated a member of the clan, former land commissioner George P. Bush, who had challenged him in the GOP primary.

But that hardly merits a footnote in the political dynamic in Texas today. More significant is what the "Bush era" once represented. When George H.W. Bush moved his young family to the state to try his luck in the oil business, being a Republican was as much of a political liability as being a New England Yankee. With those two strikes against him, Bush the elder failed in both his bids for the U.S. Senate, in 1964 and 1970, though he managed to win a House seat in Houston twice.

Still, the state was changing. A wave of corporate relocations helped bring a growing market for business-oriented candidates who could speak to the moderate impulses of suburban voters. The first real sign of a big realignment in Texas came in 1978, when businessman Bill Clements was elected as the state's first Republican governor since Reconstruction.

But it was George W. Bush, with a battle plan devised by strategist Karl Rove, who really closed the deal with his election to governor in 1994. Not once since then has a Democrat won any statewide office in Texas.

How Bush governed, working closely and cordially with top Democrats, including Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock and House Speaker Pete Laney, was a big part of his appeal. For a while, the state legislature remained a place where pragmatism could win out over partisanship — so long as the oil and banking interests were taken care of.

All of that effectively ended in 2012, when Ted Cruz, a former solicitor general who had been considered a long shot, rode the tea party wave and crushed then-Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst in the Republican U.S. Senate primary. From then on, the message to Texas Republicans was never to allow an opponent to get to their right. The years that followed saw the state turning sharply to the right on issues — most conspicuously immigration, for which Texans once had a live-and-let-live mentality.

Paxton's far-right forces are now promising all-out warfare on the Republican House members — starting with Speaker Dade Phelan — who tried to remove the attorney general from office. And with Paxton supporter Donald Trump likely to be at the top of the ticket next year, you'd have to give them excellent odds of prevailing.

But, as always, follow the money to see whether there is any pushback from what remains of the Republicans' old guard. And whether Democrats have learned enough from their failures to start offering candidates more capable of appealing to a right-leaning electorate.

Texas has become an object lesson of what happens when one party becomes entrenched enough to operate solely on the basis of its own extremist impulses. As Texas Monthly noted last year, Republican primaries in the state are generally low-turnout affairs, which means that often just 3 percent of its citizens are calling the shots for everyone else.

Yes, the Republicans who run Texas are willing to stand on principle. Unfortunately, that principle is doing whatever it takes to cling to power.



PHOTOS BY BARBARA DEBOUT FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A statue in Bangui of Wagner soldiers. The flowers laid there were a rare memorial in the Central African Republic to Wagner boss Yevgeniy Prigozhin. There were no government honors or statement.

After Prigozhin's death, Russia looks to tighten grip in Central African Republic

AFRICA FROM A1

had previously offered their services. A Western official said the trip was intended to send a clear message: Prigozhin's sprawling empire is now under government control.

A Western diplomat in Bangui said 450 Wagner mercenaries who had left the country after Prigozhin's mutiny against the Russian government in late June have not returned or have been replaced. The Western officials spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive foreign policy matters.

In many ways, the Wagner Group's presence here seems unchanged. In recent days, Wagner mercenaries wearing camouflage, ski masks and bandannas were seen around town shopping for groceries, eating at a food court in Bangui's newest mall and bargaining for backpacks at a market. Some of the men had guns slung across their backs and sped around the city in tan-colored pickup trucks, often moving in pairs or larger groups.

Western officials and analysts said operations also seem the same at Wagner's enterprises in the country, including a massive gold mine, timber concessions and liquor businesses.

Even after Prigozhin's death, two Wagner leaders, Vitali Perfilev and Dimitri Sytyi, remain here and in charge, according to multiple officials in CAR and the West. Neither man responded to requests for comment.



A Russian mercenary belonging to the Wagner Group helps protect the leader of the Central African Republic at a political meeting in Bangui in March 2022. President Faustin-Archange Touadéra's security detail also includes Wagner fighters who stand outside his office.

Beer and vodka, timber and gold

This landlocked nation of 5 million people has been reshaped by Wagner's presence over the past five years, according to interviews with more than two dozen residents, officials and analysts in Bangui. The group has been accused by the United Nations and private monitoring groups of pillaging the country's resources and of committing human rights violations, including rape and torture.

As the sun set on a Friday in Bangui, dozens of people gathered at a roadside bar, drinking beer as Congolese music blasted. Even here, the extent of Wagner's reach was apparent. Some patrons were sipping Africa Ti L'Or, which debuted this year and is manufactured by First Industrial — a company that local media reports say is registered to Sytyi, the local Wagner leader. The beer, sold in one-liter plastic bottles, has become known for being cheap and strong enough to put people to sleep after one bottle, the bartender said.

In recent years, the same company also began producing Wa Na Wa vodka, which is sold in plastic sachets. The arrival of the new brands sparked a liquor war in Bangui, with Wagner-affiliated groups pumping out propaganda attacking the French liquor giant Castel. In March, White men with rifles on their backs threw molotov cocktails at a brewery owned by the French firm's local affiliate, Mocaf, according to security footage. Western officials cited in the media blamed Wagner, while the group has not commented on the attack.

The group has "reached its tentacles" into CAR's government and the most profitable parts of its economy, said a Western diplomat in Bangui. Wagner operates its own section of the airport and a mine that contains gold valued at more than $1 billion, according to the U.S. Treasury Department, which this summer imposed sanctions on four Wagner-linked groups operating in CAR's gold industry. The investigative group All Eyes on Wagner, meanwhile, found that a company connected to the mercenary group won government concessions to log more than 700 square miles of timber in CAR's vast forests.

Wagner has also established a powerful propaganda machine, which includes a radio station that churns out pro-Russian content in the local language, Sango. And the group has placed advisers in some of the most influential parts of the government, including as the president's longtime national security adviser.

Despite the criticism, government officials and many residents credit Wagner with restoring security in vast swaths of the country and bringing safety to Bangui, which in 2020 was threatened by armed insurgency.

As Freddy Bed, 22, cracked his beer at the roadside bar, he said it was thanks to Russians "that we are in safety today. … So we appreciated them."

"All we need is security," said his drinking mate, Guebanja Prince, 24.

At a Russian Orthodox church on the outskirts of Bangui, Monsignor Regis Saint Clair Voyemawa said he joined the patriarchate of Moscow last year because of its strong conservative values and Russia's long history in CAR, which he noted dates back decades to when the Soviet Union sent teachers, business executives and cultural envoys to the African continent. The Russians, Voyemawa added pointedly, "came as partners, not colonizers."

Although Voyemawa said talk of politics and security should not be mixed with religion, he smiled widely when asked about the Russian presence.

"Now there is peace," he said, "and we have time to pray."

Russia 'graciously' agreed to help

Speaking in the interview, Touadéra said Russia was not CAR's first choice.

But when he took power in 2016, he estimated, 90 percent of the country was controlled by insurgents. The government needed weapons to defend itself but faced a United Nations arms embargo imposed in 2013, after a rebel force toppled the government. Since CAR gained independence from France in 1960, rival armed factions, at times motivated by religious differences, have vied for control.



Touadéra said Wagner would continue to aid his country: "It has always been the Russian government with which we contracted."

"We didn't have the means to equip our forces," Touadéra said. It was the Russians, rather than France or the United States, who "graciously" agreed to help, he said.

The weapons were followed in 2018 by "Russian instructors" sent to train the army how to use the weapons. Soon, it became clear that those instructors were Wagner mercenaries, and their numbers swelled in 2020, when rebels threatened to topple the government in Bangui. Government officials credited Wagner fighters with saving the city.

At the same time, Touadéra said he would be open to security assistance from Washington and other countries. "If the United States wanted to send help, we would take it. But that's not to say it would be a replacement for Russia," he said.

The Russian Defense Ministry did not respond to requests for comment.

Danièle Darlan, a former chief judge of CAR's constitutional court, said she was among those who at first thought the Russian fighters had come to secure the country. But more recently, she said, the Russians got involved in its politics.

She recounted how a Russian Embassy official had asked her to help keep Touadéra in power after his term expired. She demurred. Seven months later, she was ousted from her position by presidential decree, and the court allowed a referendum to abolish term limits.

Now, Darlan said, she worries that as other countries in the region engage with Moscow on security, they too are opening the door to Russian interference. "They made the Central African Republic a laboratory," she said.

A spokesman for the Russian Embassy in CAR denied that the meeting took place and said the embassy "never had instructions to discuss Central African domestic affairs."

Roland Marchal, a sociologist at Sciences Po University in Paris who has studied CAR for years, said most of Wagner's operations in the country will continue, though probably in a new configuration. Wagner's operations in Africa represent strategic investments for Russia, providing lucrative financial benefits and advancing Russia's political influence, he said.

"If they lose this leverage now, it would be very difficult for them to get it back," he said, "The Russians are there to stay."

Gone and all but forgotten

Even as Wagner's activities continue, the death of its leader — in what was widely suspected to be an assassination ordered by Russian President Vladimir Putin — has been met with near-total silence here.

There have been no memorials or official government statements. Even the pro-Wagner propaganda machine largely avoided the subject of Prigozhin's end.

"It's bizarre," said Trésor Adoum, 29, who works in the Ministry of Youth and Sports and had been one of Wagner's biggest boosters. "Maybe people are scared."

Even Adoum, an aspiring politician, was quick to say that he was not concerned about the future, because the country's partnership had always been with Russia, rather than Prigozhin.

Adoum had decided to commemorate Prigozhin only after a local journalist said he was doing a story on the Wagner boss's death. Adoum bought artificial flowers, called six friends and laid the bouquet at the foot of a downtown statue of Wagner soldiers defending Central Africans, as cameras rolled.

Three weeks after Prigozhin's death, the fake blue and white petals wrapped in plastic were the only marker of his life to be found in the heart of his African empire.

Mary Ilyushina in Riga, Latvia, contributed to this report.

The Washington Post
METRO
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 EZ SU B

8 a.m.	Noon	4 p.m.	8 p.m.	High today at approx. 4 p.m.
62°	73°	79°	71°	79°
				Precip: **0%**
				Wind: **WNW 7-14 mph**

JOHN KELLY'S WASHINGTON

At the U.S. Army insectary, researchers rear 10,000 mosquitoes weekly to study threats they pose. **B3**



THE REGION

Kaiser health-care workers authorize a strike if a contract agreement is not reached this month. **B3**



OBITUARIES

Lauch Faircloth, 95, battled Mayor Marion Barry as a senator during D.C.'s financial crisis. **B4**

Pinto puts forth plans on tackling D.C. crime

Package draws criticism from judges concerned about proposed searches

BY MEAGAN FLYNN AND MICHAEL BRICE-SADDLER

D.C. Council member Brooke Pinto (D-Ward 2) released a set of proposals Monday intended to shape the council's response to a surge in crime across the city — including provisions to allow police to randomly search people charged with violent offenses who are on pretrial release, which drew immediate pushback from judges.

While the council passed a stopgap emergency measure amid spiking crime in July, Pinto's combination of preexisting plans and new ideas seeks to provide a more robust response by, for example, increasing crime prevention and surveillance in highly trafficked areas and forcing people convicted of gun crimes to submit to more onerous restrictions or penalties. Pinto, who chairs the council's public safety committee, also plans to move a permanent version of the emergency legislation that passed in July, which expanded pretrial detention for adults and juveniles charged with violent crimes.

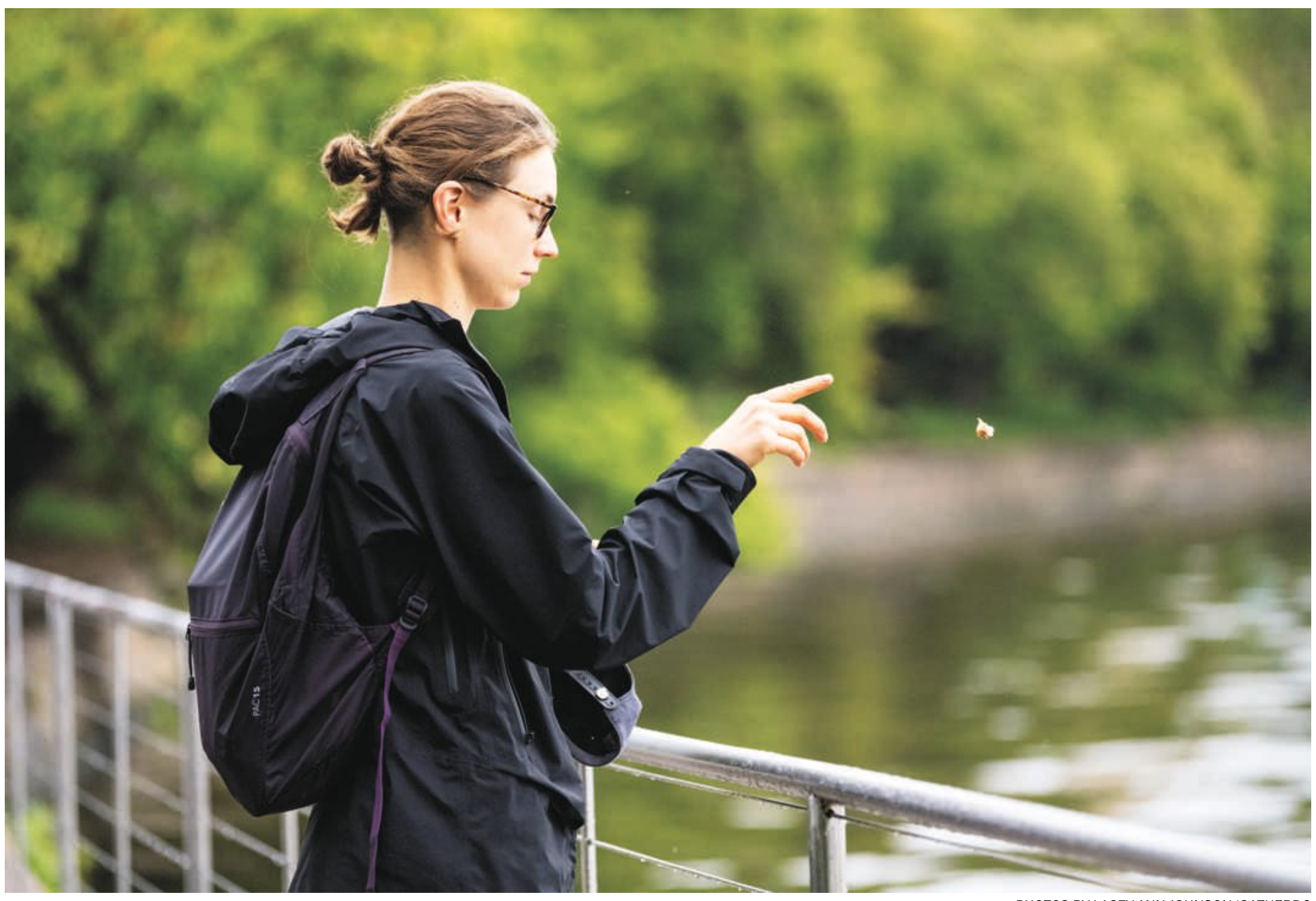
"This package certainly does not solve all of the inequities and challenges that we're experiencing in our city, many of which play a major role in leading to more crime," Pinto said. "What I will say is that this bill and package has a number of initiatives that will prevent crime," such as setting up a hospitality industry program at the D.C. jail and increasing emergency communications and surveillance along public transit.

But some provisions Pinto put forth Monday are likely to provoke significant debate this fall, underscoring the complexities of reform in the District as homicides remain on track to surpass a quarter-century high.

In a letter sent to Pinto just hours after she released the legislation, chief judges on the D.C. Superior Court and Court of Appeals warned that the measure allowing police to conduct warrantless searches without probable cause — at any time, anywhere in public — could be illegal. The searches also could apply to people on post-conviction probation, parole or supervision.

Without understanding the legal basis, "the proposed legislation appears to violate the Fourth Amendment's prohibition on warrantless searches of individuals without probable cause," D.C. Superior Court Chief Judge Anita Josey-Herring and Court of Appeals Chief Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby wrote in a letter to

SEE **CRIME** ON **B2**



PHOTOS BY LACEY ANN JOHNSON/GATHERDC

Eleanor Duce, 25, of D.C. participates in the Jewish ritual of Tashlich, or "letting go," on Sunday at the Tidal Basin.

As Jewish new year dawns, regrets are cast into water

Young adults gather for Tashlich, which encourages a focus on self-improvement

BY MICHELLE BOORSTEIN

As rain came down Sunday evening and the typical D.C. sound of passing helicopters whoop-whooped overhead, dozens of Jewish young adults stood at the Tidal Basin with fistfuls of Cheerios, ready to spiritually tackle regrets the way Jews have done for centuries.

The Cheerios are a modern twist, but since the Middle Ages Jews have been flinging breadcrumbs, scraps of paper or prayers into water on Rosh Hashanah, or the Jewish new year. The ritual is called Tashlich, which in Hebrew means "casting off," and its open-ended combination of nature spirituality and self-improvement makes it one of the faith's most popular and accessible practices.

The holiday, which ran this year from Friday night until Sunday night, is the start of an annual three-week season of judgment and reflection, when Judaism says Jews should be laser-focused spiritually on improving themselves as the Jewish year ends and a new one begins.

The group of mostly 20- and 30-somethings stood in a circle on the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Plaza and then gathered at water's edge as a light rain came and went.

"Who wants to have a cathartic start to the year?" Rabbi Ilana Zietman of GatherDC said, inviting people to step toward the center of the circle when a sentence resonated.

"Step forward if you want to let some [expletive] go!" Rabbi Nora Feinstein of



Jews from GatherDC and Sixth & I come together for Tashlich, which involves throwing crumbs, paper or pebbles into water to cast off regret or sin.

Sixth & I said as a follow-up.

The two groups co-led the event, and soon people spread out along the railing at water's edge, some with their lips moving as they expressed their intention before throwing. One person switching careers wants to let go of fear and embrace change. Another aims to get rid of masks or things that keep her from being "her truest self." Another wants to be free of resentment at work. Another wants to accept that some life choices may keep her far from family. Another seeks to embrace the newly discovered reality that a child is on the autism spectrum.

"I name something to myself or to God or to the universe, throw the Cheerios into the water, and the combination of the cleansing power of water and the appetite of ducks will pick it up," said Maggie Shrager, 32, who leads adult education at Prince George's Community College. She was there with an umbrella, a friend, her mutt Yuki and things she had been preparing for days to ritually cast away. "At the end of the day it's not magic bread, but there is a power to setting that intention in a way

SEE **TASHLICH** ON **B2**

D.C. man arrested in killing of girl, 10

POLICE SAY SHE WAS HIT BY STRAY ROUND

Youngest of nearly 200 slain this year in city

BY JUSTIN JOUVENAL AND EMILY DAVIES

D.C. police on Monday arrested a man in the killing of Arianna Davis, a 10-year-old girl whose death on Mother's Day has come to symbolize the toll of lethal violence in the nation's capital.

Koran Gregory, 19, of Southeast Washington, was charged with first-degree murder while armed.

Police said they believe Gregory and at least one other person were exchanging gunfire as Arianna's family was driving home from a Mother's Day event in the 3700 block of Hayes Street NE. Police said a stray bullet struck the girl, who was in the back seat of her parents' car. She died at a hospital three days later.

"Arianna and her family were innocent victims caught in the middle of senseless gunfire," acting D.C. police chief Pamela A. Smith said at a Monday news conference. "This has to stop. I've said it over and over and over again. This type of senseless violence has to stop."

Arianna is the youngest of 191 people, including 14 other juveniles, who have been slain so far this year in Washington — a pace of homicides not seen in the District for at least two decades.

Gregory was initially arrested Monday in D.C. on unrelated firearm charges, Assistant Police Chief Carlos Heraud said. Heraud declined to say what might have caused the initial shooting.

"It was shocking to us. It was shocking to the community," he said. "It should be shocking to you all."

Smith said the public provided "key evidence and video" that led to Gregory's arrest and stressed that police are still searching for other potential suspects. There is a $45,000 reward for any information leading to an arrest and conviction in the case. Police asked anyone with tips to call the department at 202-727-9099 or text anonymously at 50411.

Officials in the District, from Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) to U.S. Attorney Matthew M. Graves, have faced mounting pressure this year to stem the violence, as homicides are falling in many big cities but the pace of killings in Washington continues to surge.

The mayor tasked multiple city agencies with working on plans

SEE **ARREST** ON **B4**

A woman who got things done in D.C., gone too soon



Petula Dvorak

The Americans who see "Washington" as a punchline, a swamp, a cesspool where self-interest and corruption reign have never heard the name Shannon Kula.

She typically preferred it that way. The longtime chief of staff to Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski embodied the aspirational heart of Washington that student government leaders come for — a place of dedicated behind-the-scenes staffers who gets things done, who change people's lives, who understand Americans.

"Shannon brought life and light to everything and everyone she came in contact with," Mikulski (D-Md.) said of Kula, who died of breast cancer



RONALD CLARK

Shannon Kula, as chief of staff to Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski, was behind impactful legislation on women's pay and health care.

last month at 48 years old.

Kula was the one behind meaningful, impactful legislation that equalizes pay for women, such as the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. The one who ensured women get access to yearly mammograms without a co-pay, through the women's preventive health-care amendment.

The wife of a Marine — and a rarity as a military spouse among Capitol Hill staffers, according to Mikulski — it was Kula who understood the importance of commissaries to military families and fought to keep them when the Pentagon contemplated directing families to shop at Walmart instead.

Ronald Clark, Kula's husband, shared a condolence letter he received from

SEE **DVORAK** ON **B4**

Jury convicts man who claims he was at Capitol as journalist

BY PERRY STEIN

The way prosecutors see it, Stephen Horn was one of thousands of rioters who breached the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, to interrupt the peaceful transfer of power. He scaled a statue of Abraham Lincoln, stormed then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office and joined in at least one chant with the violent mob.

But Horn and his attorneys say Horn was an independent journalist who joined the rioters so he could accurately document what happened. He wasn't wearing clothing that showed support for President Donald Trump, he didn't assault law enforcement officers and he, at one point, warned against breaking any objects in Pelosi's office.

"You are being asked to decide: press or protest?" Horn's attorney, Marshall Hood Ellis, instructed the jury in the federal courthouse in Washington at the start of a two-day trial.

On Monday, after just a few hours of deliberation, the jury went with "protest." Horn was convicted of four misdemeanor counts, including disorderly conduct in the Capitol and parading or demonstrating within the Capitol building.

He is one of 1,061 defendants charged with entering or remaining in a restricted federal building or grounds on Jan. 6.

Every Jan. 6 defendant that has gone in front of a jury has been found guilty of at least a misdemeanor, although a small number

SEE **RIOTER** ON **B3**

Tashlich ritual marks new year, draws Jews to Tidal Basin

TASHLICH FROM **B1**

that's physical and spoken."

There are many stories and analyses of Tashlich's meaning.

There's an idea of water being cleansing and protective; the Talmud says fish survived Noah's flood. Beneath the water's edge is also metaphorically under the radar, and more modest and private, said Rabbi Yosef Weinstock, an executive committee member of the Rabbinical Council of America.

Judaism teaches that the 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (which this year starts Sept. 24) are Jews' window to repent before God's judgment is sealed for the year that is ending. Some core mystical Jewish texts say God's judgment isn't finalized until the fall festival of Sukkot, which ends this year on Oct. 6. Tashlich is typically done on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, but it is considered acceptable and normal to do it anytime during these three holy weeks.

Among the prayers and poems common at Tashlich are those asking for mercy, and also those urging Jews to truly let go of the things holding them back; otherwise, these things will return, like untreated waste that can wash ashore in a body of moving water.

The Washington Post interviewed Jews about their intentions for Tashlich 2023, and rabbis about the history and meanings and various expressions of the ritual.



MICHELLE BOORSTEIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Meleia Cullen Rose joins a group at the Tidal Basin for Tashlich, a ritual for the Jewish new year. Tashlich is a time for people to think about self-improvement and an opportunity to symbolically cast off regret and sin as one year ends and another gets underway.

Jutta

Jutta Brettschneider usually does Tashlich with one of the two synagogues in which she is a member. This year, she organized and led one close to her Brentwood, Md., neighborhood.

Brettschneider grew up in Germany as part of a liberal Catholic community. An occupational therapist, she loves touch and sensory things and the many rituals of Catholic life. When she converted about 15 years ago and began observing Tashlich, Brettschneider said, it felt like confession.

At her Tashlich, she said, she asked people how they can get closer to themselves, to their local community and to the global population.

"In Judaism 'sin' is something that keeps us from connecting, that makes us distant from God, that is a barrier between what I do and what I can be," she said.

This year she is thinking, personally, about how she can be an assertive activist in her efforts to improve the world and also listen well to others' strategies, to "let go of this feeling that I need to know the right answer."

Shira

To Rabbi Shira Stutman, host of the Jewish podcast "Chutzpod" and former longtime rabbi at Sixth & I, Tashlich is a great physical, embodied, concrete practice. "In a faith where we often think of ourselves as 'People of the Book' or of the head, this shows we're of our intellect and also our bodies."

With Tashlich, Stutman says, "you don't have to know any Hebrew. You don't have to belong to a synagogue or be within 6,000 miles of one to participate in this act."

Tashlich was a response to Jews in the Middle Ages being superstitious, she says. Some rabbis over the centuries didn't like it because it wasn't called for in scripture. Or because "they didn't like the idea you can just throw away missteps. We are commanded this time of year to do tshuva — or repentance — and that is hard and takes time."

Sara

Sara Wolkenfeld researches and advises on Jewish attitudes and ethics toward technology for Sefaria, a digital library of Jewish texts. She and her husband and their five children moved to D.C. a few months ago, and she's thinking this new year about how to let go of some of the assumptions and baggage from her previous life in Chicago.

"I have my experience, but I also make sure it doesn't hold me back," she said.

Wolkenfeld, 44, said she's also working to let go of her previous concept of herself as a mother of young children — since her children are a bit older now. "It's being willing to let go of a phase, of ways I used to be, and to look for the new ways I will be."

Like many Orthodox Jews, Wolkenfeld doesn't throw food into the water on Tashlich because of an ancient legal prohibition on feeding animals that aren't yours — considered "work" — on a holy day. A more common custom for Orthodox Jews is to shake out your pockets, a symbolic way of casting off sins or things you want to get rid of before the new year.

"The vibe of Tashlich is celebratory. These days have a weird tension. They are serious, God is standing in judgment of us, but also there is this aspect that we believe God is giving us this chance to start over," she said.

Maggie

Maggie Shrager grew up in — and later left — a Pentecostal home, though her father, who died when she was 8, was Jewish. During the pandemic she pined for a spiritual life and began studying and practicing Judaism.

People in the D.C. area, she said, are "workaholics," and she wants to focus on defining for herself what the "best version of myself is, the truest version, and casting off things that don't feel right."

Josh

Josh Maxey, 30, is executive director at Bet Mispachah, and his 2023 Tashlich — and high holiday focus in general — includes letting go of trying to reach perfection in his job. The pandemic dramatically changed Americans' relationships with in-person congregational life, Maxey said, and people in Jewish professions have to move on from "the way things used to be," he says.

"I'm starting to realize: We're not supposed to go back to that time. We're meant to look for other ways to engage, and that's okay. We're in a different world."

> *"This shows we're of our intellect and also our bodies."*
>
> **Rabbi Shira Stutman,** discussing the practice of Tashlich

Maxey cherishes the communal nature of Tashlich, and the liturgy of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, which often uses "we" to describe humans' failings or sins toward God.

"It's a reminder that as Jews, yes, we're individuals, but we are one people. If one falls short, we all do."

Meleia

In a yellow raincoat on Sunday, Meleia Cullen Rose looked out at the Tidal Basin in the drizzle, holding her Cheerios and thinking. Rose, 42, a learning officer at the Federal Transit Administration, puts a lot of intention into her spiritual life, going on retreats and using journals and lists of questions meant to prompt and tease out pre-Rosh Hashanah reflections. She makes lists of people with whom she missed the mark, including herself.

This year she's thinking about letting go of work challenges and frustration with her parents, and how to be more accepting and present for her parenting journey with her son.

The Hebrew word for sin — "chayt" — is defined more like when something aims for but misses the mark. Rose loves the Jewish approach to that.

"Missing the mark is very human. And I love that in Judaism you're not absolved until you encounter the same thing and act differently."



Pinto releases plans to tackle crime

CRIME FROM **B1**

Pinto on Monday.

D.C.'s leaders have faced increased scrutiny as they have struggled to strike a balance between holding violent offenders accountable and not over-incarcerating or over-policing neighborhoods — especially in a liberal city that has sought to come to terms with the racially disproportionate impacts of its criminal justice system.

The D.C. Council this summer sought to combat what Chairman Phil Mendelson (D) described as a public perception that the council isn't taking crime seriously, even though Mendelson argued the way to decrease crime is to close more cases and make more arrests. Homicides in D.C. are on track to surpass a two-decade high, while carjackings and robberies have dramatically increased. National political pressure has mounted, with Republicans in Congress repeatedly bashing D.C. as soft on crime or "anti-police" while blocking a policing bill and a major criminal code revision.

And on Monday that pressure continued: During a security briefing for House staffers who were concerned about keeping themselves safe, Greggory Pemberton, chairman of D.C.'s police union, blamed the D.C. Council for rising crime and 50-year staffing lows in the police department.

"We have a city council that's gone a little bit rogue against law enforcement," he said, decrying the legislation that restricted certain policing tactics and that Congress voted to block but President Biden intervened to protect.

Pinto said she wanted to release the package of bills and schedule hearings so that the public could see what the council plans to do about crime. She said she consulted with police and prosecutors to draft many of the provisions.

The provisions that would allow random searches of people released on bond or probation for certain offenses were part of the Addressing Crime Through Targeted Interventions and Violence Enforcement Act, or Active Act. And the Active Act, in turn, was part of a broader framework that Pinto called her "Secure DC Plan." The plan included seven proposals from Pinto coupled with a host of actions she plans to take this fall that are typical for the chair of the public safety committee. They include holding hearings on retail theft and problems at the Office of Unified Communications, which handles 911 calls — which she said she considered emergencies — and grilling the executive branch about its violence prevention efforts.

One of Pinto's proposals — the Government Recruitment and Retention Act — would seek to fill critical vacancies up and down the ranks of D.C. government that could be affecting public safety, such as at the 911 call center. Another would seek to enhance emergency communication stations and surveillance technology in public transit corridors, including at bus stops and train stops.

The Active Act, however, will probably set the stage for the biggest discussions about policing and responding to violent crime.

The legislation would further beef up penalties for gun crimes, creating a new offense for illegal disposal of a gun or ammunition — for example, while a person is fleeing police — while increasing penalties for endangerment with a firearm and firing many bullets at once. Seeking to expand alternatives to incarceration, the bill also would set up a task force to examine possibilities for diversion programs so people can avoid jail time for nonviolent misdemeanor offenses such as drug possession.

"We have the beginnings of the infrastructure for what diversion can look like," Pinto said, "but it's often delivered, in my view, too late," such as after a person has been arrested and booked in jail.

The Active Act also would create more hurdles for pretrial release in cases involving people charged with violent or dangerous offenses. For example, it would require judges to issue written explanations if they decide to release before trial a person charged with committing a violent offense — something Josey-Herring and Blackburne-Rigsby objected to Monday, noting that judges are already overburdened. There are 11 judicial vacancies on D.C.'s Superior Court.

Pinto's emergency legislation in July created a presumption that adults charged with violent or dangerous offenses be held in jail before trial — something council member Janeese Lewis George (D-Ward 4) unsuccessfully sought to strike from the bill.

The Active Act would require that judges make it a condition of release that a person charged with violent or dangerous offenses "consent to be subject to search or seizure by a law enforcement officer at any time of the day or night, with or without a search warrant or with or without cause," when that person is outside their property or place of business. The requirement would be rebuttable, meaning a person could argue to a judge why they shouldn't have to be subject to these conditions.

Pinto said she worked on the provisions to expand searches, including for those on post-conviction supervision, with the U.S. attorney's office. She pushed back on the idea that it was an expansion of "stop-and-frisk," preferring to describe the searches as a condition of release from jail or prison.

Patrice Sulton, executive director of the DC Justice Lab, echoed concerns raised by the pair of D.C. judges. She described the bill as intended to "hunt and hold people who look like they've been hunted and held before. In D.C., that's exclusively Black people, poor people and native Washingtonians."

Pinto, who is a lawyer, said she was committed to hearing out constitutional concerns raised by the judges or others, as well as any concerns about judicial workload.

Speaking to reporters Monday, Mendelson said he hadn't yet reviewed the individual measures introduced by Pinto, but he said the council should constantly be looking at how it can adjust the law in ways that will better aid police and prosecutors.

Still, he reiterated his belief that the key to reducing crime is closing more cases; the U.S. attorney's office last year declined to prosecute roughly two-thirds of arrests.

"We should be continuously looking at whether there are adjustments to the law that will help with law enforcement; surely that's what we did in July," Mendelson said. "But I'm very sensitive to folks looking to the council and then putting blame on the council for not solving the problem when the primary solutions are outside of what a legislature does."

Expect some blood inside the U.S. Army's mosquito nursery



John Kelly's Washington

It's always a muggy Washington summer inside the U.S. Army's insectary, the nursery where researchers grow mosquitoes from eggs into adults. The temperature is kept at a toasty 82 degrees, with a humidity level that borders on the swampy.

About 10,000 mosquitoes a week are reared at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research at the edge of a light industrial park in Silver Spring. I started feeling itchy a few minutes after I entered the insectary, a room about the size of my dining room. I hadn't been bitten, but I had trouble convincing my brain of that.

The Army cares about mosquitoes because every soldier stricken with a bug-borne illness — malaria, West Nile, viral encephalitis — is a soldier who can't enter battle. The work done at WRAIR has helped develop insect repellents and vaccines.

"We call it maintaining the fighting force," said **Lt. Col. Elizabeth Wanja**, director of WRAIR's entomology branch.

To learn how mosquitoes spread disease — and to develop and test vaccines against those diseases — you need a reliable supply of mosquitoes. WRAIR currently rears six species, including *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*, along with three types of Anopheles and



PHOTOS BY JOHN KELLY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Lt. Col. Elizabeth Wanja, director of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, and insectary chief Tobin Rowland, right, in the room where the U.S. Army raises mosquitoes for research purposes.

Culex.

Along one wall in the brightly lit insectary are shelves holding large shallow pans, each with a few inches of water. Tiny mosquito eggs — they reminded me of ground black pepper — are added to the water. The eggs hatch and grow into larvae. The larvae are fed with fish food, then fished out and put into white plastic buckets on shelves on the opposite wall. There — under fine-meshed screen — they grow into pupae, which is sort of the tadpole stage of the mosquito.

When I moved my hand above one bucket, the hundreds of tiny black commas floating inside rippled as one, like a murmuration of starlings.

"We call those tumblers," said Wanja of the tumbling pupae that had been startled by my shadow. It was one of the creepiest things I've ever seen.

It takes about a week to go from egg to adult.

If you're studying mosquitoes, all you want are the females, the ones that need a blood meal to lay eggs. Females are more attracted to heat — the better to find a living animal to bite — and so to sort the sexes an insectary worker holds a heat source against the bucket.

And to feed them? Donated human blood is put in a small glass cup sealed with a membrane. Pushing the membrane against the mesh screen is like ringing the dinner bell.



Adult mosquitoes cling to mesh atop a bucket at WRAIR, where research has helped develop insect repellents and vaccines.

When you buy eggs at the grocery store, you get a dozen. When you get mosquitoes from the insectary, you get 250. Feeding them blood that's been infected with malaria allows researchers to test vaccines on volunteers.

How does one come to the world of mosquitoes? **Tobin Rowland** is the insectary's chief. His first duty assignment after enlisting in the Army in 2003 as a medical laboratory technician was inside WRAIR's insectary.

"I just fell in love with it," said Rowland, now a civilian.

Wanja grew up in Kenya, where she was fascinated by insects as a girl. She was earning her PhD in entomology in 1998 when terrorists blew up the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi. Some of her relatives were among those killed. Wanja wondered how an entomologist could help in the fight against terrorism. Fighting mosquitoes was the way.

"It was one of the ways I could come in and actually work to support the military to be able to get rid of these guys," she said.

In 2007 and 2008, she spent 15 months in Iraq studying insects and how to combat them.

How do people react when Wanja and Rowland explain their jobs?

"I think the most common response is: 'You play with bugs for a living? That's not work,' " said Rowland. "Most people don't really understand the threat that's associated with insects."

And not just from mosquitoes. The insectary also raises sand flies, which have a bite even worse than the mosquito's. Sand flies are "pool" feeders. Rather than pierce the skin with a hypodermic-needle-like proboscis, they use their mouthparts to cut into the tissue, feeding on the blood that bubbles up. In the process, they can pass along leishmaniasis and sand fly fever.

Global warming seems to be expanding the territory of tropical diseases. And a new threat is on the horizon.

"Ticks are starting to become the main problem," said Wanja. "We're finding pathogens we did not know about in ticks."

That means WRAIR needs to study them. Soon, the pitter patter of tiny tick feet will soon be coming to the insectary.

THE REGION

Kaiser Permanente health-care workers authorize strike

BY JOE HEIM

Union members will walk out if contract deal is not reached this month

Kaiser Permanente workers in the Washington region have authorized a strike if a contract agreement between the union and the California-based health-care provider consortium is not reached by Sept. 30, according to a statement Monday by the local union representing about 3,800 Kaiser employees in the District, Maryland and Virginia.

In a statement posted to its website, the Office and Professional Employees International Union Local 2 said 98 percent of its members voted to approve the strike and would take the action "if Kaiser Permanente does not come to the bargaining table to properly address our priorities — including staffing, patient care, and a consistent national wage increase to reward and retain our healthcare workers."

The move follows similar strike authorizations this month by unions representing more than 80,000 Kaiser workers in California, Oregon, Washington state and Colorado. The Coalition of Kaiser Permanente Unions said the action would be the largest strike by health-care workers in U.S. history.

"We hope that there will be no work stoppage, that there will be no need to strike and that we'll reach a resolution this week," Caroline Lucas, the union coalition's executive director, said in a phone interview. "But our workers are so burned out and so pushed to the brink that they're ready to walk off for up to two weeks if that's what it takes to get a respectful contract."

Doctors and most nurses are not among those slated to walk out next week if a strike occurs, union leaders said. But it would include medical technicians, pharmacists, optometrists, nursing assistants and some office workers.

Lucas said Kaiser workers are overextended and underpaid, and she criticized the health-care provider's leadership for conditions that she said have led to excessively long waits for patients for radiology appointments, mammograms and specialty surgeries.

"Those kinds of fundamental disconnects in the way Kaiser executives are choosing to provide patient care are so egregious that our members can't in good conscience continue to show up to execute on amazing patient care," Lucas said.

In a statement last week addressing its bargaining with the unions, Kaiser Permanente, one of the nation's largest health-care providers, said the unions representing the workers had "made several claims that are misleading." It called the strike authorizations "a disappointing action considering our progress at the bargaining table."

According to its website, Kaiser Permanente serves about 12.7 million customers and operates 39 hospitals and 622 medical offices. The company serves about 835,000 members in the District, Maryland and Virginia.

"We take any threat to disrupt care for our members seriously and have comprehensive plans to ensure continued access to needed health care services should a strike occur later this year," Kaiser said in its statement responding to the strike authorizations.

"Our priority is to reach an agreement that ensures we can continue to provide market-competitive pay and outstanding benefits," Kaiser Permanente said in an emailed statement to The Washington Post in response to OPEIU Local 2's strike authorization vote. "We are confident we'll reach an agreement before the national agreement expires on September 30 that strengthens our position as a best place to work and ensures that the high-quality care our members expect from us remains affordable and easy to access."

The company also raised the question of whether workers in the D.C. region would go out on strike, saying, "In our Mid-Atlantic market, all but approximately 385 of our employees have contracts that are in effect through December 15, precluding any work stoppage prior to that date."

Betsy Twitchell, a spokesperson for the union coalition, responded that 98 percent of OPEIU Local 2 members had voted to authorize a strike.

The strike authorization by Kaiser Permanente workers comes during a wave of labor actions across the country. Unionized autoworkers at General Motors, Ford and Stellantis walked off their jobs and onto picket lines last week. Screenwriters, joined later by actors, have been on strike against television and film studios since May. And Teamsters earlier this summer reached a deal averting a strike against UPS.

LOCAL DIGEST

THE DISTRICT

Man dies after being shot in Northwest

A 34-year-old man was fatally shot Sunday afternoon in Northeast Washington, D.C. police said.

Michael McKinney of Northeast Washington died at a hospital, according to police. Efforts to reach his relatives were not successful.

The shooting occurred about 3:50 p.m. in the 1200 block of Brentwood Road NE.

By Monday morning, officials had not released more information about the circumstances of the shooting nor made an arrest.

The latest police data shows killings in the District up 29 percent compared with the same time in 2022, a year when the city surpassed 200 homicides for only the second time in nearly two decades.

— Emily Davies

VIRGINIA

Police: Man is fatally shot in Woodbridge

A 43-year-old man was killed in a shooting Saturday evening in Woodbridge, Prince William County police said.

Police responding to a shooting at 7:19 p.m. at the Summerland Heights Apartments in the 1800 block of Gableridge Turn found the victim, Kareem Rasheen Tyrone Harris of Woodbridge, suffering from gunshot wounds.

Police said in a statement that the suspected gunman, whom they identified as 25-year-old Malcom Andre Monts of Woodbridge, knew Harris.

Harris and Monts were arguing in the patio area of a ground-level apartment when Monts shot Harris before returning to his own apartment in the same building, police said. Police did not say why the two were arguing or how they knew each other.

Officers provided first aid to Harris, who later died at a hospital.

Monts was arrested without incident, charged with murder and use of a firearm in commission of a felony, and is being held without bond, police said.

— Omari Daniels

Self-proclaimed reporter convicted of Jan. 6 charges

RIOTER FROM B1

have been acquitted of felony counts.

Judge Timothy J. Kelly scheduled Horn's sentencing for January. He faces up to a year in prison on the most serious charge.

At trial, Horn's attorney attempted to portray his client as an independent journalist, traveling from North Carolina to the nation's capital on an overnight bus with other protesters to report on a rally in support of Trump's false claim that he won the 2020 election. Horn wasn't affiliated with a news outlet and didn't have a large following on social media. Still, Horn and his attorney said his intent to disseminate the recordings he took on Jan. 6 made him a journalist that day.

Horn didn't get paid for his video, but he posted it online soon after he left D.C. On the witness stand, he said he gave the footage to the FBI to help agents identify people who attacked law enforcement and destroyed property.

"I did not want to gatekeep it with money," Horn told jurors.

He said he was interested in conservative politics but never supported Trump and did not believe he was suitable to be president.

Both sides dissected the two-hour video that Horn recorded from the Capitol. Horn and his attorneys used it to differentiate him from other rioters, emphasizing that Horn wasn't aggressive to law enforcement and didn't appear to destroy any property.

They said he didn't participate in any "stop the steal" chants, which suggested the election was stolen, and only definitively participated in one "USA" chant to blend in, because he feared that the rioters would attack him if they suspected he was a journalist.

"I was not thinking about political issues or grievances, I was thinking about: 'How do I record this thing and stay safe?'" Horn said on the stand last week.

But prosecutors used that same video to portray Horn as another person in the violent mob who knowingly trespassed onto government property. They convinced the jury that Horn did not act like other journalists that day. He scarcely asked questions of people, they said. And while he had a camera on his helmet that he kept running for two hours, it was often pointed away from the action.

Prosecutors also focused on Horn's Facebook activity, highlighting that he had previously RSVP'd online to conservative protests in North Carolina and joined groups that supported the theory that the 2020 election was stolen from Trump.



AHMED GABER/REUTERS

Pro-Trump protesters, including Stephen Horn, standing above the crowd, storm the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. Prosecutors said Horn did not begin focusing on journalistic pursuits until after the riot.

Horn works for his family's software company. Prosecutors said he only focused on journalistic pursuits after the Capitol riot.

"His journalism started when he needed an excuse for his criminal liability," Assistant U.S. Attorney Ashley Akers said.

Federal investigators discovered that Horn was at the Capitol on Jan. 11, five days after the riot, when the New York Times Magazine social media account posted a photo of him dressed in black, standing on an Abraham Lincoln statue above the other rioters in the rotunda.

Two tipsters identified Horn to investigators. He sat for interviews with the FBI and was indicted in March.

Ellis, Horn's attorney, said they were disappointed in the verdict, but knew it was "going to be an uphill battle from the start."

"Mr. Horn felt strongly about telling his story to a D.C. jury," Ellis said in an interview. "It doesn't look like they believed that story, unfortunately. But he wanted to tell that story and we did our best to tell it — I firmly believe that his story is true."

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PETULA DVORAK

Americans should know Shannon Kula's name

DVORAK FROM B1

President Biden, who said he often attended Mass with her and said he understood "the black hole that you feel in your chest" when losing a loved one to cancer.

"Shannon knew the 'why' behind all the challenges she took on, from supporting women's health and fighting human trafficking to launching her own campaign for U.S. Congress," Biden wrote. "For her, it all came back to serving the country she loved and doing all she could to make its promise real for all Americans — especially for other women and for military families like your own."

Her name wasn't typically called out in the debates, signings and celebrations of these wins. But it was evoked often, sometimes through tears, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Capitol Hill last Saturday.

It's the church where she started every workday — a quiet 8 a.m. visit under its cobalt ceiling — before being the first in her Hart Senate Office Building workspace.

She went there with fellow staffer Barbara A. O'Malley, the mother of former Maryland governor Martin O'Malley (D). And the two would talk before heading into the office, where they would "receive calls from seniors and from veterans and from people in need," the former governor said at the church.

Kula took those calls "because Shannon was courageous, she was faithful, she was patriotic, and she dared to make a difference," Martin O'Malley said.

O'Malley was among the boldface names, the friends and the fellow unheralded public servants at Kula's memorial service.

Kula was one of those drawn to being in Washington for all the right reasons.

She was a leader in every endeavor she took on — from the debate and varsity tennis teams in high school to congressional staff.

And Kula was one of a small number of female chiefs of staff on Capitol Hill.

Women are still ridiculously underrepresented in Congress (we're only 27.3 percent of Congress even though we're 50.4 percent of the U.S. population), and the numbers aren't much better when it comes to the top jobs among staffers — which is where much of the power is wielded.

"Women are well-represented in junior positions on Capitol Hill, but there's a steep drop-off at the senior staff level," said Sara Lonardo, board chair of the Women's Congressional Staff Foundation.

The most recent analysis from 2019 showed about 35 percent of chiefs of staff are women. And Kula was a leader among them. While being effective — her list of legislative victories is huge — she didn't do it with the sharp elbows that Washington is famous for.

"She knew strategy, she knew policy, but she also understood power," Mikulski said. "Everyone felt included and part of the solution" when they worked with her.

"Everyone knew, if you have a question, don't ask the senator," Mikulski said at the memorial service on Saturday. "Ask the Shannon."

Kula was the first in her family to go to college, then went further, taking one night class a week for 10 years to earn a master's and then a doctorate at Georgetown University.

Her public policy work is felt every day by Americans across the nation in their pay, their health care, their grocery shops.

But she also had an impact that is a little more nerdy, a legacy that will preserve the story of women's (continuing) struggle for representation in America.

Not far from her Capitol Hill home is the grand 200-year-old Federal-style Sewall-Belmont House, which was supposed to be demolished to make room for a Senate parking garage in 1966.

But this was the HQ for the women's suffrage movement, the birthplace of a woman's voice in very governance of our nation.

After it was saved from demolition but languished in the care of an underfunded nonprofit, Kula — who walked past it every day on her way to work — pushed and whispered, lobbied and wrote until President Barack Obama designated it the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument.

In 2018, the year after Mikulski retired, Kula finally decided to make a run for a congressional seat in her native Connecticut.

It was the cancer that stopped her.

"Although, cancer delayed the launch of her campaign and ultimately prevented her from taking office," her family members wrote in her obituary, "Shannon loved being on the ground engaging and listening to the stories of people from every walk of life. Poll after poll showed that Shannon would win — if not for a health challenge. A great loss to our country and citizens."

She left something else behind.

"You can focus on how Shannon changed infrastructure," said a longtime friend and colleague, Julia Frifield.

"But she showed us how to look at people as individuals. She looked at each woman, from the receptionist to the mailroom clerk, and focused on how to help that person get what they want. What they need. It was all about empowering women."

D.C. police arrest man in killing of 10-year-old girl

ARREST FROM B1

to reduce violence. The D.C. Council passed emergency legislation this summer that makes it easier for judges to detain some people, including juveniles, before trial. And Smith, less than two months into her job, has said that police are now more aggressively investigating incidents in which gunshots are fired but nobody is struck.

Graves previously told The Washington Post that the emergency legislation had already helped authorities detain some people accused of violent crime, but not of using a gun.

Arianna's family has been outspoken about the importance of police finding and arresting her killer. At a vigil after her death, where more than 100 people gathered at RFK Stadium dressed in blue, Arianna's favorite color, her grandfather urged police to be more vigilant when on patrol.

"Get our family some justice," said Everett Douglas, "so they don't do it to anybody else."

Magda Jean-Louis contributed to this report.

OBITUARIES



RAY LUSTIG/THE WASHINGTON POST

Sen. Lauch Faircloth (R-N.C.) speaks during a 1998 news conference on Capitol Hill. The one-term senator, who chaired a subcommittee on the District of Columbia, helped lead the process creating a control board with sweeping authority over D.C. finances during the 1990s.

LAUCH FAIRCLOTH, 95

Senator clashed with Marion Barry during 1990s financial crisis in D.C.

BY BRIAN MURPHY

Lauch Faircloth, a North Carolina farmer who came to Washington as a tax-cutting Republican but whose single term as senator became defined by battles with D.C. Mayor Marion Barry as lawmakers seized near-total control of city operations amid a financial crisis in the 1990s, died Sept. 14 at his home in Clinton, N.C. He was 95.

Brad Crone, a former aide, confirmed the death but gave no specific cause.

With the District stumbling toward possible bankruptcy in the mid-1990s, Mr. Faircloth became the face of congressional unease as the chairman of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on the District of Columbia. The news was increasingly dire: The city's budget shortfalls had swelled to more than $720 million, services were trimmed to bare bones, and the tax base was in free fall as middle-class residents bolted for the suburbs.

"My ability to run a city is exactly that of Mayor Barry's: None at all," said Mr. Faircloth, whose full name was Duncan McLauchlin Faircloth but who went by a shortened version of his middle name, Lauch (pronounced "lock").

On the other side was Barry, combative and confident, riding a stunning political comeback to regain the mayor's office in 1994 for a fourth time. Barry's political future once seemed over after being caught smoking crack cocaine in a 1990 FBI sting and serving six months in federal prison. "I'm in recovery," he said when he announced his candidacy in 1994, "and so is my city."

Mr. Faircloth and Barry could not have been more different. While Barry was cutting his political teeth as an activist in the 1960s, Mr. Faircloth was quietly building deep ties among North Carolina's political leadership. As Barry was struggling in the 1980s as mayor in a city increasingly gripped by crime and a crack epidemic, Mr. Faircloth was building a prosperous network of cotton fields, hog farms and car dealerships.

Mr. Faircloth remained a loyal old-guard Southern Democrat — serving on state commissions and once making a bid for governor — until feeling the pull of the GOP's rising conservatism and newly crafted "family values" branding. He switched parties in the early 1990s and received a welcoming embrace from North Carolina's Republican patriarch, Sen. Jesse Helms.

Mr. Faircloth beat his former ally, Sen. Terry Sanford (D), in 1992 with a campaign preaching a doctrine of tax cuts, balanced budgets and tighter rules on welfare programs. It earned him a place on the influential Senate Appropriations Committee — and the top spot on the District subcommittee.

Although Congress always wielded some oversight of District affairs, the D.C. financial meltdown put Mr. Faircloth and Barry on a collision course.

In 1995, President Bill Clinton signed a plan by the GOP-led Congress for a control board that had sweeping authority over D.C.'s purse strings, with the ability to overrule the mayor and other officials.

The board, and its chief financial officer, effectively became the District's paymasters and bookkeepers. Barry, aggrieved and resentful, unleashed much of his ire on Mr. Faircloth, who helped lead the process that created the control board.

Barry's supporters, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, gathered for rallies that made Mr. Faircloth a chief villain for the new controls on D.C. spending. Mr. Faircloth appeared to shrug it off. "I've heard so many meaningless statements from Marion Barry that one more doesn't matter," he told the New York Times. "It's airy persiflage."

Mr. Faircloth opened the vault for some projects, using the subcommittee to get extra money for D.C. schools, law enforcement and repairs to municipal buildings. Meanwhile, even more sweeping watchdog measures were taking shape.

A federal rescue plan for the District was hammered out in 1997 between lawmakers, including Mr. Faircloth's team, and the Clinton administration. The package transferred control over most of the city's operations to the control board and restructured some of D.C.'s debt, including shifting a $4.9 billion pension shortfall to the federal government. Barry was left with a few small agencies, such as D.C. tourism and parks.

Barry let loose on Mr. Faircloth. "When he got the opportunity to stick up the District and begin to rape democracy, he did so," Barry told reporters. "Senator Faircloth started the rape."

Ironically, it was Barry who first called for the federal government to take control of numerous District programs in February 1995, saying the city's home-rule system — enacted in 1973 — was broken and in need of a bailout. What Barry opposed was any curbs to his own powers.

Mr. Faircloth lost his reelection bid in 1998 to Democrat John Edwards, a North Carolina trial lawyer who became the running mate of Sen. John F. Kerry (D-Mass.) during his unsuccessful campaign for the White House in 2004.

As the returns came in from North Carolina in 1998, Barry gleefully predicted Mr. Faircloth was heading back to his hog farms. "He's so busy picking on me and the residents of the District of Columbia that he neglected his constituents in North Carolina. Now he can go back and deal with the pigs," said Barry. "Goodbye, Faircloth."

Barry did not seek a fifth term as mayor and left office in early 1999. He died in 2014. The control board, and its day-to-day oversight of D.C. finances, ended in 2001.

When Barry announced he was not running again, Mr. Faircloth got in his parting shot.

"He was a terrible mayor," Mr. Faircloth told The Washington Post. "He did not have the ability to run the city, and Congress lost faith in him. To restore the capital to what 280 million Americans expect it to be, it was time for a change."

In a 1998 look back on the duels between Mr. Faircloth and Barry, Washington Post reporter Michael Powell gave Mr. Faircloth the winning edge.

The mayor "had spent two years driving the control board batty, pledging cooperation even as he strived to subvert it," Powell wrote. "It was in-house guerrilla warfare, and Faircloth crushed it like a bug."

Survived plane crash

Duncan McLauchlin Faircloth was born in Sampson County, N.C., on Jan. 14, 1928, and was the youngest of four sons. His family owned a 2,500-acre cotton farm in the southeastern part of the state.

Mr. Faircloth dropped out of High Point College (now High Point University) in North Carolina during his freshman year after his father had a stroke. He took over the family farm when his father died and gradually expanded the business to include hog farming. He also became involved in ventures such as car franchises and construction.

He was drafted for U.S. Army service in 1954 but received a hardship discharge because of his responsibilities at home. He began making influential political allies while serving as an aide and adviser to U.S. Sen. W. Kerr Scott (D-N.C.). Mr. Faircloth backed Sanford's successful run for governor in 1960 and served on North Carolina's highway commission.

In 1977, he was appointed as the state's secretary of commerce under Gov. James B. Hunt (D), and stayed in the position until 1983. Mr. Faircloth then made a gubernatorial bid of his own but failed to get the Democratic Party nomination for the 1984 election.

During an August 1983 campaign swing in western North Carolina, a twin-engine Cessna 414 used for the trip skidded off a rain-slicked grass runway and crashed into the headwaters of a lake. Mr. Faircloth, his aide Crone and two others managed to get out of the plane as it filled with smoke.

"The water saved us," Mr. Faircloth recounted to The Post. "The plane was on fire from one end to the other and the water extinguished the fire. . . . Before we were 50 feet away, the plane went back into flame and was burned to a crisp."

In the Senate, Mr. Faircloth boosted federal funds for North Carolina agriculture and business and adopted a strong right-leaning stance on social issues in votes against expanding reproductive care and gay rights. He led calls to establish work requirements as a condition for welfare.

Both of his marriages, to Lady Tarlton and Nancy Bryan, ended in divorce. Survivors include a daughter from his second marriage and two grandchildren.

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DEATH NOTICE

DEATH NOTICE

DUNLEAVY



BETTY JEAN DUNLEAVY (Age 89)

Betty exited this world, surrounded by her family, on August 31, 2023. Wife of James Elliott Dunleavy who preceded her in death; devoted and loving mother of Kevin (Mary Ann) of Fairfax, Kristie (Abdel Latifi) of Manassas and Kerry Peros of Manassas; proud grandmother of Nikki Smith (Irving) of Manassas Park, Noah Peros of Oakland, CA, Paige Dunleavy (Patrick Jackson) of Fairfax, Va and Grace Dunleavy of Fairfax; and step-great-grandmother of James Jackson of Fairfax. Also survived by nieces Shannon MacGregor of Arlington and Kelly Chapman of Alexandria, VA, and nephew Christopher Chapman (Kendra) of Tennessee.

Betty Heflin was born in Washington, DC, on July 20, 1934, and grew up in Arlington, VA, where she graduated from Washington & Lee High School. Betty and her husband, Elliott, lovingly raised their family in Vienna, VA. Betty worked as an executive secretary and office manager for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Sterling Institute and the Business Bank.

Known for her kindness, compassion and devotion to family, Betty lost her husband in 1974, when, at the age of 39 she finished raising her three children as a working mom. Betty was a voracious reader, enjoying the works of Anne Tyler, David Halberstam and Laura Hillenbrand. She devoured everything she could find on Virginia history, the Civil War and Washington politics. She also had a keen interest in genealogy, tracing the roots of her family through several generations.

Betty also was an avid sports fan, indoctrinated by her father, William Oscar Heflin, with trips to Washington Senators games at Griffith Stadium and to horse races at numerous tracks in the region. For many years, Betty wrote newspaper game reports for the Vienna Little League and Babe Ruth League. She also held season tickets for the Washington Bullets, which provided many memorable family outings to the Capital Centre. Betty never missed a Washington Nationals game, reveling with her family as her beloved Nats captured the 2019 World Series.

Later in life, Betty's happiest times were spent celebrating holidays and birthdays and watching sports events with her children and grandchildren. She also was close to her sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Don Chapman who preceded her in death.

Betty's family plans a celebration of her life in November.

PAL



RAMSAY ROLAND PAL (Age 92)

Of Washington DC, passed away on August 27, 2023, from pneumonia after a brief illness. He was the son of the late Dr. Ram Das Pal and Rosalind Abreo Pal, and was preceded in death by his two sisters, Valli Ponnamperuma and Rosemarie Pal. He is survived by his only niece, Roshini M. Ponnamperuma, of Washington, DC, who was at his side.

Ramsay's journey encompassed 9 decades of history and change in locales as diverse as British Empire India/Burma, post World War II London, 1960's Berkeley, 21st Century Manhattan, and Washington, DC. In 1941, at the age of 10, at the chaotic start of WWII in Burma, he used his wits and courage to escape and bring back help to save the lives of his mother and sisters and household, who were being held hostage at gunpoint. He would continue this mission of saving, protecting, and supporting throughout his life.

In later years, when asked to explain or elaborate, Ramsay would make a delicately dismissive gesture, like a tennis backhand. "Not worth mentioning", he would say. "It had to be done."

Although born into comfort and privilege and raised in a loving and nurturing home by his Kashmiri Hindu father, a medical doctor, and his Goan-Burmese mother, a former teacher, Ramsay was no stranger to financial vicissitudes (due to inherited family debt and his father's working largely for free); familial tensions (due to in-law conflicts); and social prejudice (as cross-cultural Indians living in Burma, they were a minority in a minority). This awareness of the uniqueness of each person's experience and situation heightened Ramsay's very original perspective on just about everything. Even as a young school boy, his math teachers would find his answers correct but derived totally differently from what had been taught in class. In a day and age where rote learning was the norm, this independence tended to set him apart from his classmates, with varying consequences. He persisted in taking the intellectual "road less traveled" - quietly analyzing things in his own time and way.

Shortly post-war, at 15, Ramsay's creativity led him to rig up an electric light system from salvaged material, totally by himself - powered entirely by the battery of his father's car. This car also figured in his learning to drive - backwards only, in time-honored fashion!

At age 16, in the turmoil of pre-Independence Burma, Ramsay and his two sisters (ages 19 and 13) traveled to London on their own, in several short stages by seaplane, for their education and a new life. Handsome and nearly 6 feet tall, he again was the family protector and source of strength - deciphering the London Underground (subway) map at Piccadilly Circus, searching for housing (in short supply after the Blitz) clipping the ration coupons, navigating a "pea-soup" fog and a "brave new world".

Studying physics at Imperial College and the University of London, Ramsay also worked at the Courtauld Institute of Art, burnishing his photography skills and laying his foundation as a Renaissance man, equally versed in art and science. Progressing to California, where the family had relocated, he continued to work in physics and chemistry research at Stanford University and in the budding computer and electronics industry. He also used his prodigious DIY skills to provide pleasant yet affordable accommodation for his mother and younger sister, whom he supported. He had a unique ability to understand technology by taking it apart, analyzing it, and then reassembling it - be it a "talking" toy teddy bear, a watch, a car part, a radio, a lab mass spectrometer, or a gas chromatograph. As always, he was the "go-to guy". When his married sister was stricken with a serious case of flu (this was before the yearly vaccine became the norm) while her husband was overseas on business, it was Ramsay who dropped everything and came to her rescue.

The twin calls of career and family brought our hero to the East Coast, where he spent 6 exciting years in chemistry research at the University of Maryland, College Park, culminating in a publication relating to the NASA Viking Lander, in the prestigious journal, "Science". This was followed by 25 years at the City University of New York (CUNY), at the flagship "City College" campus, specializing in analytical chemistry of topics ranging from vision (rhodopsin) to virus testing (hemagglutination) to organic chemistry (cyclohexane derivatives). Ramsay dealt with academic egos and the research funding roller-coaster with equanimity. Having lived through things like the war, he said, gave one a different perspective.

During these years, he continued to generously support his widowed mother and unmarried younger sister, as well as adopt an abandoned Shepherd/Beagle puppy, who grew into his faithful canine companion, Donā Isabella. He acquired a house spacious enough for all.

In retirement, Ramsay was busier than ever, enjoying the freedom to read voraciously and pursue interests in classical music, current events, economic and investment trends, and diet and health, while avidly following and supporting PBS programs, donating generously to charities such as the Special Olympics and Alzheimer's Research and amassing gadgets galore! He also occasionally indulged in a tasteful, well-cut Cary Grant-style tweed jacket or discreetly-patterned silk tie.

He would remember each family birthday or holiday with an exquisitely chosen card, always sent by Express Mail and containing a lavish cash gift. His largesse extended to many people he encountered. Having worked hard all his life to be financially independent and self-sufficient, he was open-handed in sharing the benefits with others.

Ever responsive to needs outside himself, Ramsay returned to the DC area 7 years ago to reunite with his beloved family, seeing his younger sister, Rosemarie Rani, through her final illness and being at the side of his older sister, Valli, when she breathed her last. He was a constant companion to his only niece, Roshini, during the isolation and stress of the COVID pandemic, keeping things balanced with his impish yet gentle humor and unique way of looking at the world. Even at 92, he would protectively check windows and doors at night and would investigate strange noises, to rule out potential danger.

Ramsay bore the challenges of life, aging, and illness gracefully, for the most part. As he said so often, with that gently dismissive gesture, "Not worth mentioning. It had to be done".

Visitation will be at St. Ann Catholic Church (4001 Yuma St., NW) on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 from 9:30 a.m. until time of the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Interment will be private. Please view and sign the family's online guest-book at

www.devolfuneralhome.com

WEBB-MORRIS



ANN C. WEBB-MORRIS (Age 89)

Ann C. Webb-Morris, 89, of Springfield, passed into the presence of the Lord on September 14, 2023, at her home. She loved the Lord and was forever grateful for the forgiveness of sin through Jesus Christ, her Savior.

Born September 8, 1934, Ann was the only child born to French and Viola Elizabeth Clem Wood Utterback. Ann had two half brothers, Kenneth, and Jennings Wood, and four half-sisters, Madora Heflin, Anita Fletcher, Mona Padgett, and Joyce Beck.

Ann was married to William Madison Webb for 42 years until his death in December 2003. Following ten years of widowhood, Ann and Bruce N. Morris, Sr., married. This marriage blessed her with a stepson and four stepdaughters, along with fifteen step grandchildren and great-grandchildren. While Ann had no biological children, she was the godmother of five.

Left to cherish her memory is her loving husband, Bruce; stepchildren, step grandchildren, and godchildren noted above; her sister, Joyce Beck, of Florida, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ann's long, distinguished career with the Federal Government included support and managerial roles in numerous government/defense-related organizations, including Military District of Washington, The White House, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Defense for Policy and Plans and National Security Affairs where she participated in support roles in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT). She served as Social Secretary to General William Westmoreland, Chief of Staff, US Army. She also served as Executive Assistant to the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Atomic Energy, and as Executive Assistant to the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, with offices in the Pentagon. Her work experience included travels to Egypt, Israel, Switzerland, France, Italy, and Germany.

Ann was awarded the Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award, with Cluster, and numerous awards from the Department of Defense, Office of the Chief Staff, United States Army, and Military District of Washington.

Following retirement from the government, Ann started with a newly formed company, Defense Group Inc., where she served as Vice President of Human Resources and retired as Senior Vice President for Corporate Affairs.

Ann was an active and founding member of the Community Church of God in Dunn Loring, Virginia. She was ordained Elder, served on the Board of Trustees, and was an integral part of the music and teaching ministry of the church, playing piano and singing. One of her most cherished opportunities was serving as teacher of the Golden Nugget Adult Sunday School Class. She made missionary trips to Jamaica, Haiti, and India. Ann will be remembered for her kind and generous heart and love for her family. She loved God and served him throughout her life, touching multitudes with her abiding faith.

The Viewing will be Thursday, September 21, at 11 a.m. and the Service at 12 p.m. noon, at the Community Church of God, 2500 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA. A reception will follow at the church, and all are welcome to attend.

www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com

Jefferson FUNERAL CHAPEL

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The Washington Post

IN MEMORIAM

LOWRY

PATRICIA ANN LOWRY
1945 - 2020

In Loving Memory
We miss you greatly. Now, always, and forever. Thank you for being you.
Your siblings, nephews, nieces, grand-nephews, grand-nieces, and friends.

DEATH NOTICE

BERRY

CAROLE ANN BERRY

It is with great sadness that the family of Carole Ann Berry announce her passing on September 15, 2023. Carole will be deeply missed by ALL who loved her. She is survived by her daughter Kim Snow, son, Mark Berry, and granddaughter, Stacia Snow. A graveside service will be held on Friday September 22nd at 11 a.m. in the morning at National Memorial Park- King David Memorial Gardens 7482 Lee Hwy Falls Church VA 22042.

www.snowdencares.com

KELLY



MARGUERITE STEHLI KELLY "Maggie" (Age 92)

Passed away peacefully at home on September 5, 2023, exiting as gracefully as she lived after a weekend with her family. Graduate of Foxcroft School and Bryn Mawr College, founder & CEO of women's fashion retailer Maggie's (Wayzata and Minneapolis, MN, Locust Valley, NY and Washington, DC), avid tennis player, scuba diver and family cheerleader. Beloved wife, mother and grandmother. Predeceased by her husband Charles J. (Chuck) Kelly, she is survived by three daughters, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. No services are planned. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Mission Blue (missionblue.org), or The Army Distaff Foundation (armydistaff.org).

KING

LAURA ANN KING

Laura Ann (Williams) King, 99, widow of John Francis King and formerly of Churchville,VA died September 15, 2023.
She is survived by five children and their spouses, Peter and Mary King of Herndon, Andrew and Deborah King of St. Petersburg, FL, James and Jan King of Primm Springs, TN, Juliana and Don Benner of Deerfield, VA, and Mariana and Bryan Straathof of Bethesda, MD.
The family will receive friends on Friday evening, October 6 at Bear Funeral Home, Churchville, VA.
A graveside service will be conducted Saturday, October 7 in Green Hill Cemetery, Churchville, VA.

www.bearfuneralhome.com

KLEIN

ALISSA LYNNE KLEIN

Alissa Lynne Klein, of Baltimore, Maryland, passed away on Sunday, September 17, 2023 at the age of 45. She is survived by her beloved husband, Mark Peery; dear parents Shelli Klein and Dr. Mark (Marcy) Klein; loving siblings, Matthew (Odette Mucha) Klein, Dr. Adam (Dr. Sheriza) Klein, and Seth Klein; adored grandmother, Ann Kuperminc; and cherished niece and nephew, Hazel Mucha Klein and Walden Mucha Klein.

Services at Garden of Remembrance Memorial Park, 14321 Comus Road, Clarksburg, MD 20871, on Wednesday September 20, 2023 at 1 p.m. Please omit flowers. Contributions in her memory may be sent to the charity of your choice.



DEATH NOTICE

LYONS



CLINTON HORACE LYONS

Entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, August 22, 2023. He is survived by his wife, Delzenia Hilton-Lyons; two sons, Turon A Lyons and Clinton Thornton; granddaughter, Sharonda Stewart; great granddaughter, Amiya Hargrove; brother, Irmec Richardson and a host of other relatives and friends. Mr. Lyons will lie on state at Pennsylvania Baptist Church, 3000 Pennsylvania Ave., SE on Friday, September 22 from 10 a.m. until service at 11 a.m. Interment at Quantico National Cemetery.

www.stewartfuneralhome.com

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The Washington Post

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The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

ORRISON

ALBERT SAMUEL ORRISON JR.
11/5/1946 - 9/13/2023

Officers and members of Local 26 IBEW are hereby notified of the death of Retired Brother Albert "Sam" Samuel Orrison, Jr. Our condolences are extended to his family and friends.

REDDING

DELORES REDDING

Delores Redding, who died peacefully at 89, on Wednesday, September 13, 2023. She is survived, beloved, and remembered by her two daughters, two sons-in-law, one son, with her four adult grandkids, and their mother, plus six siblings with families, and one deceased sibling's families, and all of Dee's extended families and friends all across this beautiful planet. She was a beloved people person, living unconditional love.
Friends may call on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 from 10:30 a.m. until time of Mass at 11:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church. Interment at Gate of Heaven. Arrangements by DeVol Funeral Home.

SABATH

PEARL RUTH SABATH

On Saturday, September 16, 2023, PEARL RUTH SABATH of Derwood, MD. Beloved mother of Carl (Susan Rubenstein) Sabath. Dear grandmother of Noah Sabath. Pearl was predeceased by her brothers, Bernard and Gerald Sabath. Graveside funeral services will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, 2:30 p.m. at Judean Memorial Gardens, Olney, MD. Shiva will be observed at the home of Gail Wertlieb, 16801 Bridale Rd., Derwood, MD, on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, from 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Virtual Shiva and minyan Thursday evening. Email susanrubenstein7@gmail.com for Zoom link info. Memorial contributions may be made to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), https://support.adl.org or to the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), http://act.hias.org. Arrangements entrusted to TORCHINSKY HEBREW FUNERAL HOME, 202-541-1001.

SPAIN

HAROLD SPAIN

Harold Spain peacefully passed away Friday, September 1, 2023, at the age of 92 in Wilmington, North Carolina. Last February, after living 36 years in Herndon, Virginia, he relocated to North Carolina to be closer to his daughters.

Harold retired a Colonel after 27 years of distinguished service in the United States Army Signal Corps. He proudly served at more than 15 duty stations both domestic and abroad including Korea, Vietnam, and NATO Headquarters. During his military career, the dedicated serviceman received many commendations, decorations, and was selected to be one of only five participants in a pilot program for active military to earn a master's degree; Harold earned his master's in Telecommunication Operations from George Washington University.

Upon retiring from the United States Army, he had a second career managing the development and installation of satellite earth stations for GTE Corporation. Upon full retirement, Harold enjoyed traveling, playing golf, and being a golf Starter at Algonkian Park in Loudoun County, Virginia.

Harold was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Ruth Anne; his parents Roy and Ruie Spain; his brothers Roy Jr. (Gladys), James Thomas "JT" (Maurice), and Alton "Red" (Becky) Spain.

He is survived by his current wife of 18 years Jacquelyn Spain; his daughters Cynthia Leonard (Don), Judith Ferguson (Kimball); granddaughter Monica Clevenger (Steve); great grandchildren Zoe and Logan; and stepsons Thomas Lockhart (Dawn) and John Lockhart (Tracy).

Following a service at the Old Post Chapel, Fort Myer, Virginia, Harold will be buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

STRAYHORN

CLEMMIE HOWARD STRAYHORN

On September 2, 2023 at Doctors Hospital. Survived by his son Cedric H. Strayhorn, one sister Sallie; and a host of other relatives. The family will receive friends on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at Northeastern Presbyterian Church, 2112 Varnum St., NE, Washington, DC 20018 from 9:30 a.m. until time of Celebration at 11 a.m. Pastor, Norman O. Hall, Eulogist. Interment Fort Lincoln Cemetery.

DEATH NOTICE

CHRISTIAN



DEBORAH RENEE CHRISTIAN "Sugar"

Entered into eternal rest on Monday, September 4, 2023. Beloved wife of Calvin Seace. Loving mother of John Christian, Emory, Azikiwe, Gamal, and Jordan Seace. Ms. Christian will lie in state at Saint Martin's Catholic Church, 1908 North Capitol Street NW on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 from 10:30 a.m. until service at 12 p.m. Interment will follow at National Harmony Memorial Park.

DEATH NOTICE

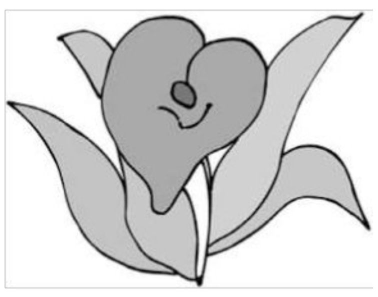
MOORE



JAYDA MEDRANO MOORE

Jayda Medrano Moore passed away on September 11, 2023 at the age of 16. She was a student at Duvall High School. Jayda was a humble, loving, and kind young girl. Jayda had a bright future ahead of her with aspirations of becoming a WNBA player. She is survived by her Father Glendon Reid; her mother Michele Medrano Moore her sister Janine Reid; grandparents Glen and Maria Reid; her uncle and aunt Johnny and Suziann Davis; and her uncle Sheldon Reid.

The funeral service will be held at Reid Temple AME, 11400 Glenn Dale Blvd, Glen Dale MD 20769 on September 20, 2023. Viewing 9:30 until 11 a.m.; Funeral service 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.



DEATH NOTICE

REMY



GLADYS ELENA REMY

Glayds Elena Remy passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 3, 2023. Gladys is survived by husband, John C. Remy, Sr.; Sons; John C. Remy, Jr.(Brienne), David Remy, Michael Remy and Ricardo Smith. She also leaves three grandchildren, four sisters, four brothers, and a host of family and friends.
Services will be held on Friday, September 22, 2023 at St. Catherine's Laboure' Catholic Church, 11801 Claridge Rd., Wheaton, MD. Public viewing from 10 to 11 a.m. and Mass 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

www.mcguire-services.com

DEATH NOTICE

DEATH NOTICES
MONDAY- FRIDAY 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SATURDAY-SUNDAY 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

To place a notice, call:
202-334-4122
800-627-1150 ext 4-4122
EMAIL:
deathnotices@washpost.com

Email and faxes MUST include name, home address & home phone # of the responsible billing party.
Email deadline - 3 p.m. daily
Phone-In deadline
4 p.m. M-F
3 p.m. Sa-Su

CURRENT 2023 RATES:
(PER DAY)

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Black & White
1" - $155 (text only)
2" - $355 (text only)
3" - $505
4" - $555
5" - $700

SUNDAY
Black & White
1"- $185 (text only)
2" - $390 (text only)
3" - $560
4" - $590
5" - $765

6"+ for ALL Black & White notices
$155 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$185 each additional inch Sunday

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Color
3" - $650
4" - $700
5" - $855

SUNDAY
Color
3" - $685
4" - $785
5" - $955

6"+ for ALL color notices
$260 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$290 each additional inch Sunday

Notices with photos begin at 3"
(All photos add 2" to your notice.)

ALL NOTICES MUST BE PREPAID

MEMORIAL PLAQUES:
All notices over 2" include complimentary memorial plaque

Additional plaques start at $26 each and may be ordered.

All Paid Death Notices appear on our website through
www.legacy.com

LEGACY.COM
Included in all death notices
Optional for in Memoriams

PLEASE NOTE:

Notices must be placed via phone or email. Photos must be emailed. You can no longer place notices, drop off photos and make payment in person.
Payment must be made via phone with debit/credit card.

The Washington Post



DEATH NOTICE

FOLEY



SEAN FOLEY
5/29/1958 -9/9/2023

Sean Foley, a legend in the international tax field who reshaped global tax policy over the course of thirty years, died unexpectedly from a heart attack on September 9 in Sausalito, CA. A devoted husband, father, son, brother, and friend, Sean was 65.

Sean dedicated his life to finding equitable answers to the day-to-day challenges that keep the economy moving. Sean began his professional career on the Hill, serving as the Legislative Director for the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Congressman Sandy Levin. During this time, he attended Georgetown Law and graduated summa cum laude. While working for Congressman Levin, he found his passion for tax. He saw tax policy as the key to improving people's lives. As he would note later in life, every single government policy and program needs funding to run.

After graduating from law school, Sean clerked for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, then of the DC Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sean was very active in politics and, in 1992, he cofounded the Saxophone Club, an organization that mobilized young voters to elect President Bill Clinton The little shiny saxophone pin became ubiquitous amongst young people in Washington, DC and President Clinton acknowledged the Club's significant contribution in numerous speeches.

After working several years in private practice, Sean joined the Internal Revenue Service, where he led the Advance Pricing Agreement (APA) Program which negotiates fair taxation of multinational corporations. He enjoyed working across countries and cultures to collaborate on finding fair answers.

After five years with the IRS, Sean joined the global accounting firm KPMG, where he spent the next twenty-two years of his career, first as a Principal and later as the Head of Global Transfer Pricing Services. He is remembered as a bold leader who brought creativity, energy, and fun to any team.

Sean served the broader community by completing significant pro bono work with a particular interest in prisoner rights. He actively participated on committees such as the ABA Tax Transfer Pricing Committee where he served in numerous roles including its Chair in 2011-2012 and he used his exceptional teaching and mentoring skills serving as an Associate Professor with both Georgetown Law and the University of Florida's LLM Program.

Sean was born in Pontiac, Michigan to John and Joan Foley. The oldest of six children, he grew up in Kalamazoo, Michigan where he attended Hackett High School. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and economics, and from Georgetown University Law Center with a J.D. and an L.L.M. in taxation with distinction.

His greatest joy was traveling the world with his beloved wife Eva and sharing these adventures with his family and friends. He is survived by his wife of thirty-four years, Eva Foley; his two children, Maeve and Sinead Foley; his five siblings, Patrick Foley, Rosemary Foley (Gerard Boruch), Joan Foley (Earle Weiss), Meg Foley McCabe (Kevin McCabe), and Ella Foley Gannon (Cormac Gannon); and 11 nieces and nephews.

A memorial service is being held at the University Club in San Francisco, Friday September 22, 2 to 4:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs.

GRENIER



PATRICIA J. GRENIER

An extraordinary mother who selflessly gave of herself in so many Catholic (and other) charitable endeavors, Patricia J. Grenier of Potomac, Maryland passed away peacefully on August 29, 2023, surrounded by her family. Pat was 89 and died of dementia and Parkinson's Disease related symptoms. Pat was widowed by her beloved husband, Edward, in 2021.

Pat was born in Queens, New York to Irene and Joseph Cederle, who raised Pat and her beloved sister Tippie with abundant love. Their other gifts to Pat and Tippie included a constant sense of humor and deep family values.

Pat and Ed were married for 64 years and theirs was a great love story, whose four cornerstones were faith, family, Catholic charitable good works, and summers at Cape Cod. They were completely devoted to each other and created an extraordinary marriage. They delighted in entertaining friends and family in their homes. Every summer the family gathered in Cape Cod, and Pat leaves a legacy of prioritizing the importance of family over all else. Pat and Ed left behind literally thousands of family photographs, as well as countless hours of video of almost every family holiday gathering.

Pat graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree from Adelphi College in 1956, and married Ed on June 22, 1957, just after Ed's first year at Harvard Law School. Pat and Ed moved to the D.C. area in 1959. Pat was a devout Catholic, and she and Ed were loyal parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church.

Not only was Pat a philanthropist who gave generously to Catholic-based institutions, but her volunteer and charitable work was boundless. She organized and chaired galas and other charity events to raise money for many causes. Pat also received numerous awards for her endeavors.

In addition to her devoted sister Tippie, Pat leaves her beloved three children, Tori Eklund of Florence, MA, Edward J. Grenier III (Lynette) of Potomac, Peter Grenier (Nancy) of Darnestown, and six grandchildren, Sara, Kristen, Sydney, Winston, Genevieve, and Hayley, and one exceptional nephew, Paul.

Pat's greatest joy in life was the time spent with her grandchildren. She treasured every moment, and they all brought her comfort in her final hours.

Friends who would like to celebrate Pat's extraordinary life are invited to the visitation and reception on Thursday, September 21, 2023, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Joseph Gawler's Sons, 5130 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, DC.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington. https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/catholiccharities-escenter/

Funeral mass and interment private.

JOSEPH GAWLER'S SONS, LLC FUNERAL DIRECTORS

THE WEATHER

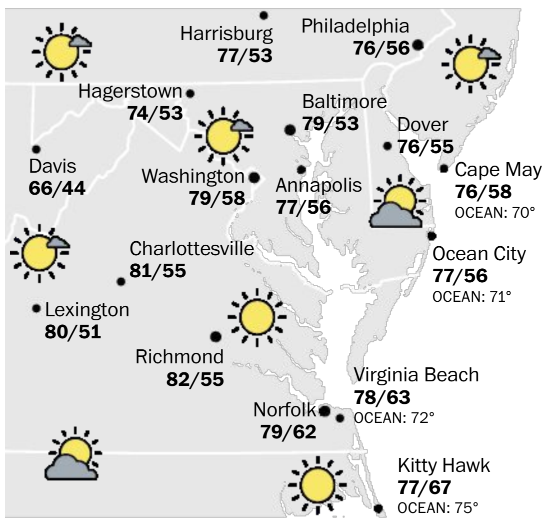
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A lovely late-summer day

It will be a gorgeous day — sunny like Monday afternoon, but for the full day. Temperatures will try for the upper 70s as winds blow from the north at about 10 mph.

Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny	Rain	Cloudy
79° 58°	83° 61°	84° 62°	79° 62°	73° 61°	73° 63°
FEELS*: **79°**	FEELS: **86°**	FEELS: **87°**	FEELS: **80°**	FEELS: **67°**	FEELS: **73°**
CHNCE PRECIP: **0%**	P: **0%**	P: **5%**	P: **15%**	P: **90%**	P: **25%**
WIND: **WNW 7–14 mph**	W: **WNW 4–8 mph**	W: **NE 4–8 mph**	W: **ENE 7–14 mph**	W: **NE 10–20 mph**	W: **W 4–8 mph**
HUMIDITY: **Low**	H: **Moderate**	H: **Moderate**	H: **Moderate**	H: **Moderate**	H: **High**

REGION



Pollen: Low
Grass Low
Trees Low
Weeds Low
Mold Low

Air Quality: Good
Dominant cause: Ozone

UV: Moderate
5 out of 11+

Blue Ridge: Today, mostly sunny. High 62 to 68. Winds west-northwest 6–12 mph. Tonight, clear. Low 49 to 53. Winds southwest 4–8 mph. Wednesday, partly sunny. High 65 to 71. Winds southwest 6–12 mph. Thursday, partly sunny. High 66 to 70.

Atlantic beaches: Today, sunny; potential for a tropical system to bring heavy rain early this weekend. High 75 to 79. Winds west-northwest 7–14 mph. Tonight, clear to partly cloudy. Low 56 to 62. Winds west-northwest 6–12 mph. Wednesday, partly sunny.

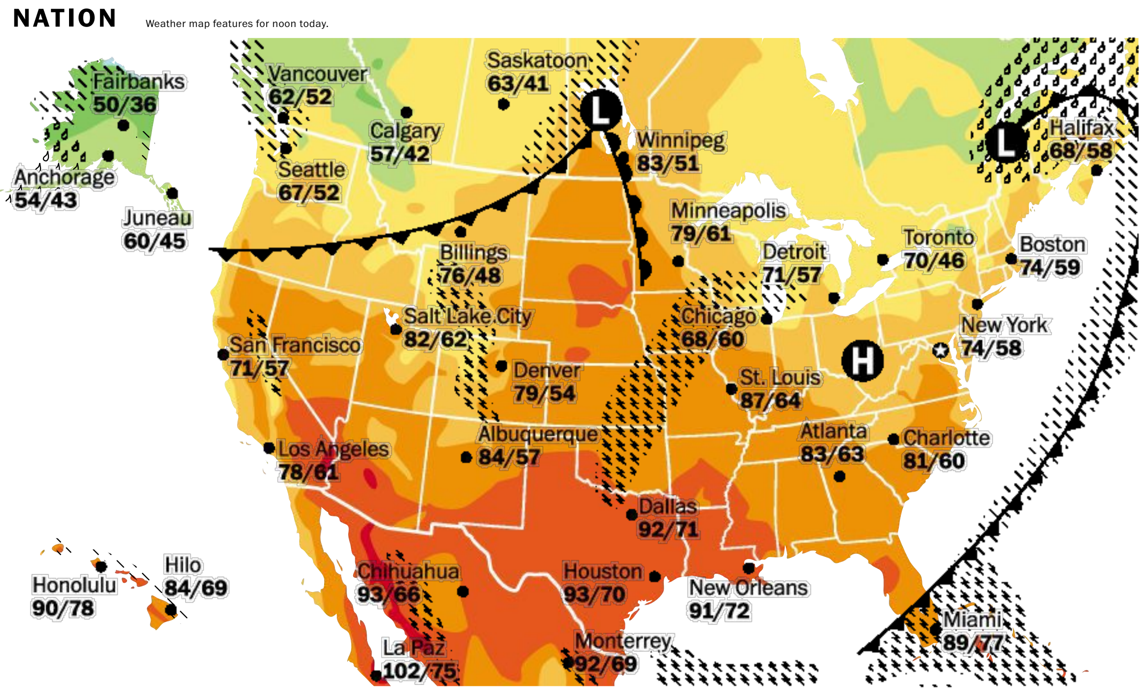
Waterways: *Upper Potomac River*: Today, mostly sunny. Wind northwest 6–12 knots. Waves less than a foot. Visibility clear. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay*: Today, sunny. Wind northwest 7–14 knots. Waves 1–2 feet on the Lower Potomac; 1–3 feet on the Chesapeake Bay.• *River Stages*: The stage at Little Falls will be around 2.70 feet today, falling to 2.60 Wednesday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (High tides in **Bold**)

Washington	6:06 a.m.	**11:18 a.m.**	5:58 p.m.	**11:32 p.m.**
Annapolis	2:48 a.m.	**7:59 a.m.**	2:33 p.m.	**9:18 p.m.**
Ocean City	4:35 a.m.	**10:55 a.m.**	5:17 p.m.	**11:12 p.m.**
Norfolk	**12:25 a.m.**	6:19 a.m.	**12:50 p.m.**	7:09 p.m.
Point Lookout	**4:10 a.m.**	10:11 a.m.	**5:02 p.m.**	none

NATION

Weather map features for noon today.



T-storms · Rain · Showers · Snow · Flurries · Ice · Cold Front · Warm Front · Stationary Front

<-10 · -0s · 0s · 10s · 20s · 30s · 40s · 50s · 60s · 70s · 80s · 90s · 100s · 110+

Yesterday's National
High: Phoenix, AZ **102°**
Low: West Yellowstone, MT **28°**
for the 48 contiguous states

World
High: In Salah, Algeria **112°**
Low: Maquinchao, Argentina **14°**
excludes Antarctica

NATIONAL	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	71/50/pc	72/48/s
Albuquerque	84/57/s	82/61/s
Anchorage	54/43/s	49/43/r
Atlanta	83/63/pc	83/64/pc
Austin	94/69/s	95/73/pc
Baltimore	79/53/s	80/58/s
Billings, MT	76/48/c	72/46/pc
Birmingham	84/62/s	85/64/pc
Bismarck, ND	85/46/s	74/54/pc
Boise	75/49/pc	71/48/pc
Boston	74/59/pc	73/56/s
Buffalo	68/48/s	72/49/pc
Burlington, VT	65/54/sh	68/50/s
Charleston, SC	87/63/pc	85/66/pc
Charleston, WV	74/50/pc	81/53/pc
Charlotte	81/60/pc	80/60/pc
Cheyenne, WY	77/50/t	76/49/pc
Chicago	68/60/sh	80/62/pc
Cincinnati	76/55/pc	83/59/pc
Cleveland	69/55/pc	74/59/s
Dallas	92/71/t	94/75/t
Denver	79/54/t	82/53/s
Des Moines	86/63/t	81/61/pc
Detroit	71/57/pc	75/59/pc
El Paso	96/67/s	95/70/c
Fairbanks, AK	50/36/pc	52/40/c
Fargo, ND	86/53/pc	78/60/t
Hartford, CT	74/52/pc	74/49/s
Honolulu	90/78/pc	92/76/sh
Houston	93/70/s	93/75/t
Indianapolis	77/55/pc	83/58/pc
Jackson, MS	91/65/s	93/67/pc
Jacksonville, FL	88/63/pc	87/70/t
Kansas City, MO	87/65/t	76/61/t
Las Vegas	94/72/s	89/69/pc
Little Rock	92/67/s	87/65/pc
Los Angeles	78/61/pc	76/63/pc
Louisville	81/58/pc	86/61/pc
Memphis	87/64/s	87/68/pc
Miami	89/77/t	87/76/t
Milwaukee	65/60/c	79/61/c
Minneapolis	79/61/pc	83/62/pc
Nashville	81/57/pc	85/64/pc
New Orleans	91/72/s	90/76/pc
New York City	74/58/s	76/57/s
Norfolk	79/62/s	79/63/pc
Oklahoma City	84/63/t	85/65/t
Omaha	87/62/t	81/60/pc
Orlando	88/74/pc	90/73/t
Philadelphia	76/56/s	78/56/s
Phoenix	100/73/s	100/74/pc
Pittsburgh	70/51/pc	74/56/pc
Portland, ME	73/54/sh	72/51/s
Portland, OR	72/54/s	71/52/pc
Providence, RI	73/55/pc	74/53/s
Raleigh, NC	83/57/pc	83/59/pc
Reno, NV	83/57/pc	81/50/s
Richmond	82/55/s	84/60/pc
Sacramento	83/56/s	82/54/s
St. Louis	87/64/s	84/64/pc
St. Thomas, VI	92/80/s	93/81/pc
Salt Lake City	82/62/pc	87/61/pc
San Diego	74/65/pc	73/65/pc
San Francisco	71/57/pc	70/56/pc
San Juan, PR	92/80/sh	94/81/t
Seattle	67/52/pc	66/50/sh
Spokane, WA	64/46/pc	60/46/sh
Syracuse	67/48/pc	70/47/s
Tampa	88/76/t	90/75/t
Wichita	80/62/t	81/61/t

WORLD	Today	Tomorrow
Addis Ababa	71/54/sh	71/55/sh
Amsterdam	66/60/sh	71/62/c
Athens	85/65/s	84/70/s
Auckland	66/51/s	68/51/c
Baghdad	107/75/pc	107/76/s
Bangkok	94/79/t	96/79/t
Beijing	81/56/pc	81/60/s
Berlin	71/57/c	78/56/pc
Bogota	70/46/pc	71/44/pc
Brussels	67/59/c	72/62/pc
Buenos Aires	63/57/c	62/60/c
Cairo	90/75/s	90/75/s
Caracas	80/66/t	81/66/t
Copenhagen	65/62/r	70/62/c
Dakar	91/79/s	91/79/t
Dublin	66/57/r	61/45/pc
Edinburgh	60/56/sh	63/47/sh
Frankfurt	71/56/pc	77/58/pc
Geneva	73/53/pc	75/60/pc
Ham., Bermuda	85/76/s	84/74/pc
Helsinki	66/54/sh	63/52/r
Ho Chi Minh City	92/76/t	91/78/t
Hong Kong	91/80/pc	91/81/r
Islamabad	92/74/s	94/74/s
Istanbul	81/66/s	78/65/pc
Jerusalem	84/64/s	82/63/s
Johannesburg	79/55/t	81/52/s
Kabul	85/61/s	86/57/s
Kingston, Jam.	92/83/pc	93/83/t
Kolkata	88/79/t	89/80/t
Kyiv	79/59/s	70/58/c
Lagos	85/76/sh	86/76/r
Lima	72/66/pc	72/67/pc
Lisbon	79/60/s	75/65/pc
London	67/62/c	67/52/r
Madrid	76/56/s	76/56/pc
Manila	94/79/r	94/79/t
Mexico City	78/55/sh	80/55/pc
Montreal	63/50/sh	69/51/s
Moscow	65/52/pc	72/56/pc
Mumbai	88/80/t	89/80/sh
Nairobi	81/59/t	81/60/pc
New Delhi	93/79/pc	92/81/t
Oslo	63/46/r	60/58/sh
Ottawa	67/45/r	65/46/s
Paris	71/59/c	76/60/s
Prague	73/52/c	76/55/pc
Rio de Janeiro	85/71/s	80/72/s
Riyadh	108/82/pc	107/80/s
Rome	85/66/pc	81/69/pc
San Salvador	89/70/t	90/70/t
Santiago	72/48/c	63/47/c
Sarajevo	86/53/t	83/56/s
Seoul	86/69/c	77/66/c
Shanghai	95/78/pc	89/72/t
Singapore	90/78/pc	88/78/t
Stockholm	63/48/r	62/55/c
Sydney	93/72/s	96/63/s
Taipei City	98/78/s	96/77/s
Tehran	85/65/s	84/69/s
Tokyo	90/79/s	89/76/t
Toronto	70/46/s	69/51/s
Vienna	78/55/pc	81/61/pc
Warsaw	71/51/c	75/54/pc

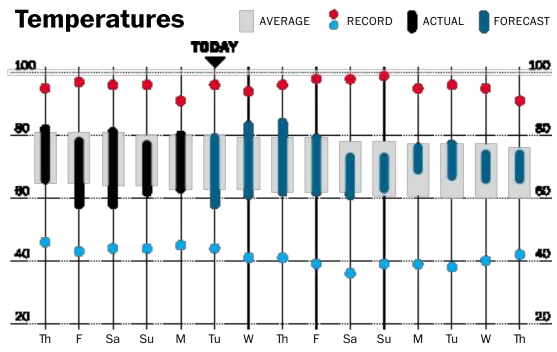
Key: **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **r**-rain, **sh**- showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sources: **AccuWeather.com**; US Army Centralized Allergen Extract Lab (pollen data); airnow.gov (air quality data); National Weather Service

* AccuWeather's **RealFeel Temperature®** combines over a dozen factors for an accurate measure of how the conditions really "feel."

OFFICIAL RECORD

Temperatures

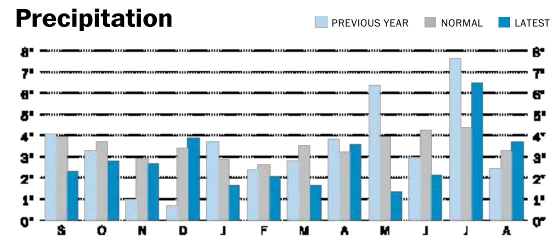


Statistics through 5 p.m. Monday

	National	Dulles	BWI
High	**80°** 3:16 p.m.	**79°** 5:00 p.m.	**79°** 2:57 p.m.
Low	**63°** 6:00 a.m.	**61°** 4:00 a.m.	**63°** 5:11 a.m.
Normal	80°/63°	79°/57°	79°/58°
Record high	91° 1927	91° 1978	91° 1978
Record low	45° 1937	37° 1990	41° 1990

Difference from 30-yr. avg. (National): this month: **+3.5°** yr. to date: **+2.0°**

Precipitation



	National	Dulles	BWI
Past 24 hours	0.03"	0.01"	0.07"
Total this month	1.34"	3.61"	3.93"
Normal	2.38"	2.33"	2.62"
Total this year	23.83"	22.83"	28.83"
Normal	30.29"	31.55"	32.40"

Moon Phases

Sep 22	Sep 29	Oct 6	Oct 14
First Quarter	Full	Last Quarter	New

Solar system

	Rise	Set
Sun	6:53 a.m.	7:10 p.m.
Moon	11:19 a.m.	9:21 p.m.
Venus	3:44 a.m.	5:05 p.m.
Mars	8:25 a.m.	7:56 p.m.
Jupiter	9:15 p.m.	11:02 a.m.
Saturn	6:14 p.m.	4:58 a.m.



Imagine a city without lead!

That's **a goal** we can all get behind—and we have a plan to meet it.

DC Water estimates the District of Columbia has more than 28,000 service lines with lead or galvanized-iron pipe. It is our goal to replace all of them with copper pipe by 2030. There's **no cost to DC residents that qualify!** We just need permission from the homeowner to come onto the property.

Find out if you qualify. See FAQ - LEAD FAQs at dcwater.com/leadfaqs.

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Lead Free DC by 2030

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The Washington Post
Style

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

EZ RE

C

The discordant fallout of a rock journalism icon

BY PAUL FARHI AND WILL SOMMER

Jann Wenner spent 55 years building his legacy as a media entrepreneur, godfather of New Journalism and tastemaker for the baby-boomer generation.

It took a single interview for him to throw a good deal of it away.

Just days after Wenner was quoted in a New York Times interview describing female and Black artists as insufficiently "articulate" to make his list of rock's greatest figures, the co-founder of Rolling Stone has been denounced by not one but two of the institutions he helped create.

On Saturday, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, which Wenner helped form in 1983, forced him off its governing board. But the deeper cut may have come from the leadership of Rolling Stone, where his own son took steps to distance himself from the 77-year-old Wenner's sentiments.

"While I love him deeply, I do not agree with the comments he made and understand why they are so upsetting and hurtful," Gus Wenner, the magazine's chief executive, wrote Sunday in an email to staff, which was shared with The Washington Post. "I want to be clear,

SEE WENNER ON C8

THEATER REVIEW

'Evita' gets all dressed up for D.C. audiences

BY PETER MARKS

It's a bloomin' stunner: Rows of flower boxes strewn with white flora and adorned with flickering candles rise up on the Harman Hall stage like a garden stairway to heaven. Amid the white roses and camellias, in the iconic strapless ballgown — white, too — Shereen Pimentel materializes as Eva "Evita" Perón, crooning that elegiac ballad of self-beatification, "Don't Cry for Me Argentina."

The number near the top of Act 2 in director Sammi Cannold's gorgeously reinvigorated "Evita" is guaranteed to provoke goose bumps. Because Cannold and designers Jason Sherwood (sets), Bradley King (lights), Alejo Vietti (costumes) and Connor Wang (sound) devise a revelatory setting for one of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's most sumptuous songs. Add the luscious voice and presence of Pimentel, and the ingredients of an unforgettable musical-theater moment are stirred.

The production, minted at American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Mass., and transplanted now to Shakespeare Theatre Company's flagship space, makes a persuasive case for "Evita" as the most artistically vibrant musical in the Lloyd Webber canon. (Admittedly the competition is less than fierce.) Cannold

SEE THEATER REVIEW ON C3

A video game's successful reach for the stars

BY GENE PARK

I'm the interviewer, but legendary game creator Todd Howard was looking like he had questions for me.

It turns out I'm the first person he's spoken to outside his workplace who's played and finished the video game he's dreamed of making for the past quarter of a century. It's called "Starfield," developed by Bethesda Game Studios in Rockville and published under Microsoft's Xbox brand.

Expectations for the project have been astronomical thanks to the pedigree of the studio's past titles and the fact that it's the company's first new intellectual property in almost 30 years. Fans have whispered about the title "Starfield" in gaming forums and discussions since it was trademarked in 2013. For years, it felt mythical. On top of that, it's saddled with the burden of being a marquee title for Xbox, a successful platform that nevertheless has a smaller market footprint in the global games industry.

This month, "Starfield" became real. And Howard wants to know what we all think.

"I haven't talked to anybody who's finished it, so I'm fascinated by your experience," Howard tells me.

Howard seems nervous about the re-

SEE 'STARFIELD' ON C3

THE EGO AND ID OF RICK OWENS



The designer's work speaks to arrogance, vanity and repression

BY RACHEL TASHJIAN

Rick Owens is FaceTiming shirtless on a beach on the Lido in Venice — his washboard abs and shoulders covered in glittering drops of the Adriatic Sea, from which he's just emerged, his long black hair in a thick Cleopatra-like sweep — pondering whether he feels connected to the American male ego.

"I don't know if I'm really in touch with what American men are going through," he says. "I don't really go to America. I spend no time in America. But I am very conscious of male aggression and ego because I examine it a lot in myself."

"As I've gotten older, I just kind of marvel — not even marvel. I'm *dumbstruck* by my own aggression and ego. I think back and I think, 'What on earth gave me this sense of entitlement, that I was commanding people to accept and appreciate what I do?' Which is what you have to do when you're a designer: You have to insist that people look at your stuff, and you have to insist that it's worthwhile and demand their time and their attention."

"I'm ashamed of it," he says, "but I'm also kind of proud of it."

Perhaps his most famous fan, Twitter and Block co-founder Jack Dorsey, summarizes the Owens school of thought best: "Rick once said: 'Don't buy more clothes. Go to the gym.' That's an attitude that resonates with me and my work deeply."

Owens's work, which he shows almost exclusively in Paris, may look outrageous, but it comprises some of today's most insightful statements on masculine arrogance, the vanity of digital culture and our repressive beauty standards.

A new Rizzoli tome — "More Rick Owens," Owens's second with the publisher — captured by his longtime collaborator, photographer Danielle Levitt, features some of his most audacious collections on those subjects, made between 2019 and 2023. It includes what Owens calls "our covid quartet": four shows that Owens produced during the height of the pandemic.

That was a disastrous time for the fashion industry: Big companies had to keep calm and carry on, while smaller and independent brands struggled to stay above water, all while designers and consumers questioned whether the pace of fashion had spun far out of control. Owens was one of the few designers to present sensitive and thoughtful collections that also managed to use silhouettes, music and styling to say something immediate about the state or mood of our world.

SEE OWENS ON C2

Fashion designer Rick Owens finds both shame and pride in the "sense of entitlement, that I was commanding people to accept and appreciate what I do" when he was younger.

DANIELLE LEVITT/OWENS CORP.





DANIELLE LEVITT/OWENS CORP

Rick Owens's bold designs are not just for show

OWENS FROM **C1**

"These are uncertain times or uncomfortable times," he recalls thinking, "and facing adversity with grace is one of the best things that we can do right now."

Like other designers, he experimented with video, live-streaming runway shows from the Lido. (He splits his time between there and Paris, and many of his factories are in Italy.) But his collections stood out for their relevance — using masks as fashion and political statements, foregrounding the male physique as an expression of boneheaded power, channeling the hedonism of late-pandemic partying. Other brands, he pointed out, "represent the very tippy-top, very best of our industry. So they need to look great. They need to look powerful, and they need to reassure their customers and their shareholders and their teams that they're back at full steam."

"I don't think I can do that," he recalls thinking. "I don't think that's the point."

Take the masks, for example. "We are doing a show that is very sensitive to what everybody is going through, and to not use masks would be to be oblivious," he says. "We're not pretending this isn't happening. Fashion is a reflection of real life, for me."

Owens, who calls himself "a small-town sissy," grew up in Porterville, Calif., at the foot of the Sierra Nevada mountains in a conservative Catholic family. He moved to Los Angeles for college in the 1980s, where he met Michèle Lamy, the French-born designer, and the two became business partners and lovers. (They married in 2006.)

After getting robbed at gunpoint, he moved to the Chateau Marmont, where he designed his first collection in the mid-'90s.

"It sounds glamorous and expensive, but it wasn't," he says. "I mean, it was glamorous — but it wasn't expensive." He thinks of his fashion brand and its itinerant universe — collaborations with Converse and Adidas, minimalist furniture designs, projects with the musician Peaches, fashion shows that expose male models' flaccid penises — as "a war against oppressive bigotry."

In the years following, Owens has become known as a beacon for a different way of dressing, living, being. (And even loving: Owens is openly bisexual.)

His clothes represent an American avant-garde when most of American fashion is relentlessly commercial, but he also manages to make garments — four-inch-tall platform boots inspired by the band Kiss, big-shouldered coats and sculpted dresses — that sell well at stores such as Net-a-Porter and Ssense and that are wearable and flattering. (Just pull on one of Owens's pencil skirts or his long, soft T-shirts and you'll see.)



PIERRE-GILLES VIDOLI/GETTY IMAGES

"I'm pretty sure a lot of people think that I'm this fantasist, and that I'm creating like, these dystopian warrior looks. And I'll admit that sometimes my shows come across like that, because when I do a show, I'm going to put on a show."

But, he says, "I have a huge practical streak, and the things that I present are things that I fully intend to sell. I never put anything on a runway just for the effect. I put everything on the runway as a logical proposition."

His clothes, especially his sweatshirts and tees, have become a uniform for Silicon Valley disrupters, particularly Dorsey, for whom Owens's black hoodies, drop-crotch sweatpants and long T-shirts have become his answer to Steve Jobs's Issey Miyake black turtlenecks. "What attracts me to Rick's work is its philosophy," Dorsey says. "It's simple, forever and punk. The piece I carry with me everywhere is a black cashmere hoodie. It's been with me now over six or seven years and only gets better with time, like all of his work."



DANIELLE LEVITT/OWENS CORP

Photos of models in designs by Rick Owens, top photos, are featured in the book, "More Rick Owens," above. At left, Owens is pictured in 1992 with Michele Lamy, then his business partner and now his wife.

Asked why he thinks his clothes resonate in that world, Owens says: "I think there is a sense of futurism and a respect for something ancient that kind of appeals to people like that and appeals to me," adding that they, like him, are "consistently applying themselves to trying to arrange something more modern."

Owens occupies a unique space, as an independent in an increasingly homogeneous fashion industry. Nearly every high-end brand you've heard of is owned by the conglomerate LVMH or its smaller competitor Kering; runway shows are engineered to inspire simplistic desire, not contemplation or a thumb in the eye of the status quo.

That's what makes Owens so unusual: that he is emphatic about his role as the designer representing the road less traveled, of alternative forms of beauty and aspiration. His shows are attended by legions of fans dressed in his garb — most invited and a few just lingering outside, taking in the Owens vibes.

People *find* themselves in his clothes. "I would like to see something else than what I usually see," he says. "And what I usually see is about Bentleys and a lot of statusy things. I would like to try and present something that is … that is not *that*."

Owens thinks of the messaging of most fashion and luxury and beauty brands and sees narrow-mindedness. Just look at the duty-free shops in airports that travelers are forced to march through, which have "a very specific set of sexual and aspirational values, [and] a very specific set of standards of what people are supposed to look like in order to be desirable," he says. "I want to be able to propose alternatives to that. I want to be able to propose [that], if you can't reach the standards of this world, I have other proposals for you."

Luxury brand Balmain's new collection taken in Paris delivery truck robbery

BY HERB SCRIBNER AND RACHEL TASHJIAN

Dozens of items from luxury fashion brand Balmain were stolen after a delivery truck was "hijacked" in Paris on Saturday, causing a major ripple for the fashion house less than two weeks before the collection is set for display at the upcoming Paris Fashion Week.

More than 50 items were stolen from a truck transporting the collection from an airport to Balmain's headquarters in Paris, according to a statement from Olivier Rousteing, the company's artistic director. The truck was "hijacked by a group of people," he said. The truck driver was reported safe.

"This is so unfair," Rousteing wrote on Instagram.

"So many people worked so hard to make this collection [happen]," he added. "We are redoing everything but this is so so disrespectful."

Balmain aimed to reveal the items at the Spring-Summer 2024 show as a part of Paris Fashion Week later this month, which features presentations from high-end fashion brands including Louis Vuitton, Dior, Chanel and Hermès.

A spokesperson for Balmain told Reuters that the Paris show would still go ahead as planned. There has been no comment on any pending investigation.

Fashion industry designers and insiders, including Donatella Versace and Simon Porte Jacquemus, shared support for the brand in Instagram comments on Rousteing's statement. Models Elsa Hosk and Linda Evangelista also offered sympathy for the incident.

"Sending you all my love. I know that you and your creativity will be able to overcome this!" Versace wrote.

Balmain is among the brands preparing to display their sets during the nine-day Paris Fashion Week event.

Rousteing was the first millennial designer — and one of the first Black designers — to helm a luxury fashion house, arriving at Balmain in 2011. His social media savviness disarmed his competitors; he was an Instagram natural, filling his feed with pout-faced selfies alongside the likes of Kim Kardashian, former French Vogue editor Carine Roitfeld and supermodels, all of whom he deemed members of his "Balmain army."

In more recent years, his story has evolved to one of the more painful amid the gloss of the fashion industry. In a 2019 documentary, "Wonder Boy," Rousteing



JULIEN DE ROSA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A creation from Balmain's Paris show in March. Items that were to be shown at the upcoming Paris Fashion Week were stolen.

discovered that, though he had believed that he was mixed race, both of his parents were African. Two years later, he revealed that a 2020 explosion in a fireplace in his home had left him with burns covering much of his body, which he'd spent much of the year attempting to hide. "To be honest I am not really sure why I was so ashamed," he wrote on Instagram. "Maybe this obsession with perfection that fashion is known for and my own insecurities."

His armor-like clothes have always been unabashedly glitzy and brash to the point of camp; he counts NBA superfan James Goldstein and Kylie Jenner as fans. His Fall-Winter 2023 collection, shown in Paris in March, was a warmly received nod to the Parisian house's founder, Pierre Balmain, with 1950s-inspired black and pearl tailoring and saucer hats by Stephen Jones.

How 'Starfield' lived up to its astronomical expectations

'STARFIELD' FROM C1

ception, but the game appears to be a success so far. "Starfield" has become the most-played Xbox-exclusive game this console generation, according to Xbox. It's the Xbox game on the most wish lists ever on the Steam marketplace. And it broke the record for the most pre-installed game since the 2017 start of Microsoft's games subscription service, Xbox Game Pass.

"Starfield" is a milestone in Microsoft's strategy to become a universal gaming platform across various methods of distribution, through the cloud, PC or the Xbox series consoles. Game Pass, billed as a Netflix-like disruptor service for gaming, last year reported 25 million subscribers, and "Starfield" is aimed to boost those numbers.

Microsoft acquired Bethesda parent company ZeniMax Media in 2021 for $7.5 billion with hopes to buttress its subscription service with exclusive quality titles. Howard and Phil Spencer, the head of Xbox, say the partnership is a natural fit, especially because the studio has worked closely with Xbox in the past.

"It's been a while since we launched anything of this scale that's single player," Spencer tells The Washington Post in an interview. "It's kind of a pin for us in our strategy that we can do big multiplayer games and single-player games. The business models that we have in Xbox and the places where we ship allow us to find millions of players."

A key to Microsoft's game strategy

Microsoft is recently closing up its historic $69 billion acquisition of Activision Blizzard, publisher of the Call of Duty and Candy Crush games, after a federal judge rejected a Federal Trade Commission lawsuit that alleged that the deal was anti-competitive. This aggressive expansion is not just to stay competitive with Nintendo and Sony PlayStation, but also to stave off other tech giants who have been trying to enter the enormously lucrative video games industry.

Spencer says the deal is Microsoft's attempt to establish more open standards in gaming.

"I spent a lot of time thinking about how the game industry is going to grow, and my view is that it grows if there's less friction of a player anywhere wanting to find their game, and closed platforms create real barriers to that," Spencer said. He admitted that Xbox has its own walled-off content ("Starfield" is not available on PlayStation, for example), but said that he's working to change that.

Xbox is still focused on expanding its game services while its rivals race ahead in film and television. This year, Nintendo and Sony have expanded their intellectual property to include "The Super Mario Bros. Movie," which earned more than $1.3 billion at the global box office, and the 24-time Emmy-nominated HBO series "The Last of Us." Spencer admits Xbox is still "earlier in our journey" to squeeze its brands in other spaces.

"We don't have the deep expertise that Sony obviously has from their movie studios that make



FRIEDEMANN VOGEL/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK



BETHESDA GAME STUDIOS

TOP: Visitors queue for "Starfield" at the Xbox booth during the Gamescom gaming convention in Cologne, Germany, in August. LEFT: Todd Howard, director of "Starfield," has been a fan of space adventures in games for decades and wanted to fulfill his own space exploration fantasy.

world-class video content, and Nintendo did a great job, obviously," Spencer said. "I do think it's important for these worlds we're creating in games. We used to have a lot of envy in our industry of Hollywood and what they created, then you see comics kind of take over, and now you're going to see video game stories continue to grow in importance, because our creators are as capable as creators of any medium."

Designing an interconnected world

Ask anyone in the games industry, and they'd point to Howard as one of those capable people. Bethesda Game Studios' entries in the post-apocalyptic Fallout franchise catapulted the series from a niche computer role-playing game into a mainstream, multimillion-dollar franchise. A "Fallout" show is in the works for Prime Video. (Post owner Jeff Bezos is the founder of Amazon, which owns Prime Video.)

Howard and his teams like to create games that form backdrops for countless other stories. "Starfield" has a thousand explorable planets, including an Earth with a surface blasted by some mass annihilation event. I landed my ship in the D.C. area with hopes to find the nuclear wasteland from "Fallout 3" — to no avail.

Howard laughs. "We talked about it."

It was just one of hundreds of plans that didn't quite make it into the game. Howard said it was a challenge to make sure the studio's technology could keep up with its ambition.

"Oh, we planned, and those plans went out the window," Howard said. "We knew we were going to rewrite parts of the engine, so we started building technology for the planets and the outer-space stuff on our previous engine and renderer." They eventually realized that they had to port years of work to a new engine. Then the pandemic hit.

Howard said working from home made production "very, very slow," especially because the studio was going to overhaul all of its technology with lots of already finished art assets. The game was initially scheduled for a 2022 release, but that May, the studio announced a delay into this year.

When Bethesda chose the original November 2022 release date, "we had lots of buffer, and we felt really good about it," Howard said. "As things moved on, we were off by a percentage, and a percentage when it comes to the scale of this game turns out to be a lot of time. We felt it was the right thing to do to give us the time we required."

Howard seems particularly pleased at how the game's main quest comes together. So our conversation returns to my thoughts on the main storyline. I tell him the same thing I wrote in my review: This is the studio's best main questline. The appeal of a Bethesda-made role-playing game is that players can inhabit large worlds and simply exist in them, partaking in activities such as building houses or farming between countless storylines scattered across a map. These games are notorious for having so many things to do that a player may simply ignore the central quests — which, critics and players often agree, aren't exactly the highlight of these games, anyway. So it was surprising to see how much production and planning went into the main quest of "Starfield."

"We started with the themes and the ending," Howard said. "We started early on where the theme and the long-term play of the game was built into the story. Those two things are fused together."

Howard said "Starfield" made him think about the nature of video games and why people play them. Video games are usually a power fantasy, and even in Bethesda games, that fantasy is often achieved with finding a better weapon, getting stronger or having more money. "Starfield" is meant to challenge that notion.

If video games are wish fulfillment, the story of "Starfield" aims to fulfill an ancient human fantasy: Given all the experience and wisdom you've attained since birth, would you do it all again?

"Usually in a video game, you go on to the next quest or the next thing. But if it challenges to say, 'Are you sure?' I find that an interesting idea as it applies to a game," Howard said. "We do ask a lot of questions throughout the main quest, and we don't provide all the answers. We want you to look inside yourself. How do you feel about the choices you've made? How do you feel about everything you've learned and built up, and would you do it again if given the choice?"

The legacy of "Starfield" has yet to be written. It's the latest in a long line of video games about space. "Spacewar!" in 1962 was developed in an MIT lab and can be called the grandfather of the video game medium. It was followed by games such as "Space Invaders," "Galaga" and "Asteroids." I asked Howard whether that legacy weighs on him.

"That is an excellent observation, and I think I've done enough interviews for this game and no one's mentioned that, so I appreciate that," Howard said.

"Growing up with video games at a very young age, there were a lot of space games. … There was 'Star Raiders' from Atari, 'Elite' comes along, there were some role-playing games that I really love, 'SunDog,' which no one remembers but was way ahead of its time. People were playing 'Dungeons & Dragons,' but I really loved this game 'Traveller.' Still have the original boxes in my office."

For Howard, "Starfield" is born of a wish to play space-faring adventures with the modern technology and design language of video games.

"It's something we always talked about here. A few years in, we figured out why people try and stop or don't want to do it all the way," he said. "But we are in a fortunate position to have the support and time to do it."

'Evita' has never been more thrilling

THEATER REVIEW FROM C1

looks shrewdly into the story of Argentina's tornadic first lady to dismantle some of the mythology. She unearths neither monster nor martyr, but rather a woman armored by misfortune who manages to find her fortune.

This Eva is the pragmatic product of privation. Her vulnerability is taken advantage of by rapacious men and her humility extinguished by power. She is a ravenous urchin schooled in cruelty, her wildest dreams realized through guts, guile, grit and a gift for survival. A measure of the production's canniness is the suggestion, more emphatically than in prior instances, of a real marriage between Eva and President Juan Perón. He is portrayed with palpable passion by Caesar Samayoa, to whom Pimentel's mortally ill Eva sings a wrenching "You Must Love Me," the ballad the songwriters added for Madonna in the unfortunate 1996 movie version.

With the stylish contributions of choreographers Emily Maltby and Valeria Solomonoff, the show moves like a dream, as the mid-century denizens of Argentina's cosmopolitan capital — you know, "Stand back, Buenos Aires!" — dance to Eva's irresistible tune. The tango, the country's sensual signature, recurs as the story of Eva's rise, from boy toy to political dynamo, unfolds. These two national symbols, one an expression of desire in movement, the other the feminine embodiment of a people's will, imbue this "Evita" with its urgent aspirational momentum. The story, like its subject, has unstoppable energy.

"Evita" has only been revived once on Broadway since Harold Prince's Tony-winning 1979 production, which launched into the stratosphere a young lead actress named Patti LuPone and, as a narrating Che Guevara, Mandy Patinkin. Prince took a Brechtian approach to the material that benefited immeasurably from the elemental sense of need LuPone projected.

But Cannold gives us a different perspective, reinforced in the highly fictionalized character of Che, played by the dashing Omar Lopez-Cepero; the director introduces a younger version of the Argentine-born revolutionary, a supposed eyewitness to the increasingly corrupt Peronist phenomenon. The conceit allows the director to integrate the sung-through musical's political themes more robustly into the glamorous melodrama of Eva's life and early death, at 33, from cancer.

A certain reductive quality is inevitable in the theatrical framing of a political biography; another autocratic fashion plate of the 20th century, Imelda Marcos, is center stage in the current Broadway musical "Here Lies Love," a show that is even thinner in psychological detail than "Evita." Contemporary audiences, though, seem enthralled by the vicissitudes of women, especially scheming ones, at the right hand of authority. (See also: "Six.") So maybe the time is ripe for "Evita" to get another crack at Broadway.

The production in Harman Hall has the arresting bona fides for such a gambit. Under a quintet of movable arches, outlined in neon, the ensemble strikes adoring poses — one aspect "Evita" does stint on is delving into why the populace embraced Eva so ardently. You get only a fleeting idea of the turbulent conditions that fostered the Eva worship, although the Act 1 finale, "A New Argentina," exuberantly bottles the desperation of the proletariat to invest in a savior. And in the wit of "The Art of the Possible," the choreographers reveal the military elite's stranglehold on power, through a game of musical chairs.

Competing with Eva's "little touch of star quality," though, the generals are faceless also-rans. Costume designer Vietti draws a chromatic distinction between Eva and everyone else (even the pope!): Emulating designers' silhouettes of the past, he dresses Pimentel in a succession of outfits



DJ COREY PHOTOGRAPHY

Caesar Samayoa as Juan Perón, surrounded by the ensemble of "Evita." Costume designer Alejo Vietti dresses those other than Eva "Evita" Perón, played by Shereen Pimentel, in gray, while Eva dons white.

in angelic white, while the ordinary folk, the soldiers, the foreign luminaries all wear shades of gray. If clothes are supposed to make the man, in "Evita," they sanctify the woman. That the show begins with the disembodied ballgown suspended in mid-air compels us to consider the question: What empty values did Eva enshrine?

Through Pimentel, Cannold communicates the thematic essence of her production. The actress takes us empathetically, step by step, from innocence to ruthlessness. The tirelessness of Eva's campaign for love and riches seems to destroy her; the breakdown of her body feels like an inevitable result of her overarching ambition. And in a town where craven grasps for power are part of the daily routine, Eva and her musical are right at home.

Evita, music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, lyrics by Tim Rice. Directed by Sammi Cannold. Choreography, Emily Maltby and Valeria Solomonoff; set, Jason Sherwood; costumes, Alejo Vietti; lighting, Bradley King; sound, Connor Wang; orchestrations, David Cullen and Lloyd Webber; music direction, Mona Seyed-Bolorforosh. With Gabriel Burrafato, Naomi Serrano. About 2 hours 15 minutes. Through Oct. 15 at Harman Hall, 610 F St. NW. *shakespearetheatre.org*.

Q&A

Her first book sold 35 copies. Now she's a bestseller.

BY STEPHANIE MERRY









BRIANNA WILBUR BLOOM

Romance writer Lucy Score has found great success with her Knockemout series.

Romance writer Lucy Score tried many jobs before finding her calling. She was a yoga instructor and a bartender, a journalist and a marketer, "and I kept getting fired," she says. Eventually, it started to get to her: "Everybody else was doing their job. They were married, they had their kids, and they were doing all of the right things in the right order. I was just floundering around like I missed that day in high school. You know, I wasn't there for the important 'this is how you adult' lesson."

As it turned out, her version of it just looked different. Now she spends her days writing the kinds of funny, romantic novels that her many TikTok fans label #spicy as a selling point. Her mini romance empire has grown large enough that her husband, Tim Hoot, runs the business side of their joint venture, That's What She Said Publishing.

The final installment of Score's Knockemout trilogy, "Things We Left Behind," came out Sept. 5 after rabid anticipation online, where readers dubbed the hero, the enigmatic Lucian, "Suit Daddy" on account of his bespoke menswear.

All three books take place in the fictional Knockemout, Va., a small town near D.C. where the characters are colorful and the gossip travels fast. Something about the quaint yet eccentric locale has struck a note with readers: According to Circana, which tracks book sales, "Things We Left Behind" sold almost four times as many print copies in its first week as the second book in the series, which was also an instant bestseller. (The newest book debuted at No. 2 on Circana's list, though it had stiff competition: Stephen King's "Holly.")

Just before the release of "Things We Left Behind," Score — a pen name she uses to protect her privacy — and I chatted over Zoom from her home in Mechanicsville, Pa., about her unconventional path to success and how the Knockemout trilogy came together.

The following interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Q: When did you start writing?
A: I always enjoyed writing, especially when I was a little kid. Before I even knew my alphabet, I would carry a notebook around with me and just write scribbles in it. I thought that I was going to be the next Lois Lane. (I was heavily influenced by "Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman" with Dean Cain and Teri Hatcher.)

I actually went to college for journalism, but I learned very quickly that I didn't want to write the news. I was such a light, happy person, and who knew that the news could be so dark and sad?

Q: How did you get into romance?
A: I've been reading romance novels since I was 13. I started stealing them off my mom's shelf. The first book that I remember reading is still one of my all-time favorites. It's Julie Garwood's "The Bride." It's a historical novel, and it's hilarious.

All through college and then as a young adult, I was still reading romance novels. It didn't really occur to me to write one until E L James's "Fifty Shades of Grey" came out. At the time, I was working at a local newspaper here in Harrisburg. Everybody was passing "Fifty Shades of Grey" around the newsroom, and then it was my turn. I had it sitting out on my desk, and my boss comes up to me and he says, "I can't believe you're not embarrassed to have that on your desk." And I was like, "It takes a lot to embarrass me, and I would never be embarrassed by something that I was reading."

Then he wanted an article about the local chapter of Romance Writers of America. And he said: "Make sure you don't talk to anybody who's self-published. Those aren't real books."

I feel like I'm the kind of person that, as soon as somebody tells me that I cannot do something or that something's not valid, I'm like, "Hold my beer." I think, honestly, it was that moment when the seed was planted. So I decided I was going to write my own book. And it took me a year, I think, to write a really short novella. It was 35,000 words, and I did the research on how to put it up on Amazon. And I sold 35 copies.

Q: What was it called?
A: "Cocktails at Seven." When it didn't immediately go gangbusters, I thought: "Oh no, the dream is dead. I need to be an adult and get a real job." But then I got an email from another indie author and she said: "Your brother shared a link to your book on a forum that we were in, and I downloaded it and read it. I really liked it. I run a small publishing label. Would you be willing to rewrite this as a full-length novel and let me republish it for you?" And I was like: "The dream is not dead."

Q: If you hadn't gotten that email, do you think you would have written another book, or were you too demoralized?
A: I was demoralized enough that I wouldn't have kept publishing. But I would have kept writing for myself, because I can't stop.

Q: You've published more than 30 books. Is it ever difficult to find new stories?
A: I think my brain is really structured for this. It makes me a good writer and a not-so-great human, because I constantly have one foot in my brain at all times. I am mining every single conversation for something to use in stories, some kind of inspiration.

Q: Your books have sold well before, but the Knockemout books seem particularly popular. Why do you think the first book, "Things We Never Got Over," resonated so much with readers?
A: I think part of what made it resonate with readers is I was grieving when I wrote it. I have a friend Claire, and her husband, David, who was also a good friend of ours, passed away very suddenly. And I started the book that day, the morning he passed away.

The story came from the Jake Owen song "Down to the Honkytonk." There's a line in there about, "I got a dog named Waylon. I got a driveway that needs pavin'." And I was like: "I want to write a story about *that* guy." That was the first inkling. And so I just kind of fumbled my way through my grieving process and my writing process at the same time. And the story ended up being about being brave enough to love, even when you know that you're going to lose someone. And I think I just bled it out into the page a little bit.

Q: Were you aware from the start that it was going to be a trilogy?
A: No, which is terrible. The best way to write a series is to know that you're writing a series and set everything up accordingly.

Q: It seemed as if you knew, because the spinoff characters for the second and third books seemed so obvious.
A: I knew that I wanted to write Nash's story pretty early on. Early in "Things We Never Got Over," Knox and Nash — they're brothers — they get into a fistfight in the road, and during that fight scene, I was like: "Oh, gosh, I kind of want to know who Nash is. I want to know his story. Who is he going to fall for?" Because they were such opposites.

I didn't even plan to have Lucian as a character. He's their best friend from childhood. When he appeared on the page, I thought: "Who is this guy?" At that point, I knew I was writing a trilogy. That part of the process was really problematic, because I had to go back so many times while writing the first book to start filling in things that I knew I would have to pay off later.

Q: As a reader, I felt as if you were leaving all these breadcrumbs, so you must have had it mapped out ahead of time.
A: I had no idea. I was lying in bed one night and it hit me, just the whole overarching thing. It was like it existed out there, and I just had to find it, you know? It wasn't like I had to make it up. But it worked. And I'm so, so thankful.

Editor's note: As the strikes by TV writers and actors continue to strictly limit production of scripted shows, we are putting the TV Highlights column on hiatus. We'll continue publishing a daily TV schedule.

BROADCAST CHANNELS

9/19/23	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
4.1 WRC (NBC)	◆ **NBC News**	◆ **Hollywood**	◆ **America's Got Talent** (Live)				◆ Quantum Leap		◆ **News**	(:35) ◆ J. Fallon
4.2 WRC (IND)	Bones		Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Roseanne	Roseanne	The Nanny	The Nanny
5.1 WTTG (Fox)	◆ **Fox 5**	◆ **TMZ**	◆ **Name That Tune**		◆ 9-1-1: Lone Star		◆ **Fox 5 News at 10**		◆ **Fox 5 News**	◆ **The Final 5**
7.1 WJLA (ABC)	◆ **Wheel**	◆ **Jeopardy!**	◆ **Celebrity Fam** (SF)		◆ Jeopardy! Masters		◆ The Chase		◆ **News**	◆ J.Kimmel
9.1 WUSA (CBS)	◆ **Inside Ed.**	◆ **ET**	◆ FBI		◆ FBI: International		◆ FBI: Most Wanted		◆ **9 News**	(:35) ◆ Colbert
14.1 WFDC (UNI)	◆ **La rosa de Guadalupe**		◆ **Eternamente amándonos**		◆ **Tierra de esperanza**		◆ **Minas de pasión**		◆ Noticias	◆ **Noticiero**
20.1 WDCA (MNTV)	◆ FamFeud	◆ FamFeud	◆ **Fox 5 News On the Plus**		◆ FamFeud	◆ FamFeud	◆ FamFeud	◆ Puzzler	◆ Chicago Fire	
22.1 WMPT (PBS)	◆ Farm	◆ Outdoors	◆ Finding Your Roots		◆ **Becoming Frida Kahlo** (P)		◆ **Independent Lens** (SP)			◆ **Amanpour**
26.1 WETA (PBS)	◆ **PBS NewsHour**		◆ Finding Your Roots		◆ **Becoming Frida Kahlo** (P)		◆ **Independent Lens** (SP)			◆ **Amanpour**
32.1 WHUT (PBS)	◆ DW News	◆ Rubenstein	◆ America ReFramed			◆ Nature		◆ Wild Hope	◆ BBC News	◆ Vets N
50.1 WDCW (CW)	◆ Neighbor	◆ Neighbor	◆ **Inside the NFL** Week 2		◆ **The Swarm**		◆ **DC News Now**		◆ Seinfeld	◆ Seinfeld
66.1 WPXW (ION)	◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire	
CABLE CHANNELS										
A&E	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	(:35) Neighbor.
AMC	(5:15) Movie: The A-Team		Movie: Con Air ★★ (1997)					Movie: Gone in 60 Seconds ★ (2000)		
Animal Planet	Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law	
BET	(6:00) Movie: Acrimony ★ (2018)				**College Hill**		**American Gangster**		College Hill	
Bravo	Housewives SLC		Housewives SLC		**The Real Housewives of Salt Lake City**			Housewives SLC		Housewives
Cartoon Network	King/Hill	King/Hill	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	American	American	American	American	Rick
CNN	**E. B. OutFront** (Live)		**Cooper 360** (Live)		**The Source With** (Live)		**CNN Primetime** (Live)		**CNN Tonight** (Live)	
Comedy Central	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office
Discovery	Deadliest Catch		**Deadliest Catch**		**Bering Sea Gold**		**Mysteries**		(:05) Mysteries	
Disney	Kiff	Kiff	Big City	Big City	**Big City**	Ladybug	Ladybug	Ladybug	Pretty Frk	Pretty Frk
E!	Movie: She's All That ★★ (1999)				Movie: 10 Things I Hate About You ★ (1999)				**E! News**	Movie
ESPN	**Basketball** Washington Mystics at New York Liberty				**WNBA Basketball** Atlanta Dream at Dallas Wings (Live)				**SportsCenter** (Live)	
ESPN2	30 for 30 Fernando Nation		E60		Tennis 50th Anniversary - Battle of the Sexes					
Food Network	Chopped		**Chopped**		**Bobby's Triple Threat**		Chopped		Chopped	
Fox News	**The Ingraham Angle** (Live)		**Jesse Watters** (Live)		**Hannity** (Live)		**Gutfeld!**		**Fox News at Night** (Live)	
Freeform	Movie: Monsters, Inc. ★★★ (2001)				Movie: Tangled ★★★ (2010)				The 700 Club	
FX	Movie	Movie: Deadpool 2 ★★★ (2018)					**Welcome to**	**Welcome to**	WelcomeTo	WelcomeTo
Hallmark	(6:00) Movie: It Was Always ...		Movie: A Summer Romance (2019)				Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls
Hallmark M&M	Movie: Rip in Time (2022)				Movie: Come Fly With Me (2023)				Murder, She Wrote	
HBO	(6:15) Movie: Barbarian		Movie: Anna ★★ (2019)				Winning Time		(:05) Movie: Election ★★★	
HGTV	Dream Home	Dream Home	**Good Bones**		**Good Bones**		**Hunters**	**Hunters Int'l**	Hunters	Hunters Int'l
History	History's-Mysteries		History's-Mysteries		History's-Mysteries		(:05) History's-Mysteries		(:05) History's-Mysteries	
Lifetime	Castle		Castle		Castle		(:05) Castle		(:05) Castle	
MASN	Ballgame	**O's Xtra**	**MLB Baseball** Baltimore Orioles at Houston Astros (Live)					**O's Xtra**	**Touchdown Baltimore**	
MSNBC	**The ReidOut** (Live)		**All In With** (Live)		**Alex Wagner Tonight** (Live)		**Last Word** (Live)		**11th Hour** (Live)	
MTV	Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta		**Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta**		**The Love Experiment**		Caught in the		**Rock the Bells 2023**	
Nat'l Geographic	Life Below Zero		Life Below Zero		**Life Below Zero**		**Life Below Zero**		Life Below Zero	
NBC SportsNet WA	Hershey Bears:		Pure Outdoor	Short List	The Immo	Greatest	Fairways of Life		Outdoor	Short List
Nickelodeon	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
NWSN	**On Balance**		**Cuomo**		**Dan Abrams Live** (Live)		**Banfield**		Cuomo	
PARMT	Two Men	Two Men	Movie: Men in Black ★★★ (1997)				Movie: Men in Black II ★★ (2002)			
Syfy	(6:25) Movie: Seed of Chucky ★ (2004)			(:25) Movie: Curse of Chucky (2013)				Movie: Cult of Chucky (2017)		
TBS	**MLB Baseball** Philadelphia Phillies at Atlanta Braves (Live)						**MLB Close**	Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon
TCM	(6:45) Movie: Female ★★		Movie: Angel Face ★★ (1952)				Movie: The Night of the Hunter ★★★ (1955)			
TLC	My Big Fat Fabulous Life		**My Big Fat**		**My Big Fat Fabulous Life**		**Welcome to Plathville**		Sister Wives	
TNT	Movie	(:45) Movie: Knives Out ★★★ (2019)						(:40) Movie: The Blind Side ★★★ (2009)		
Travel	Haunted Hospitals		Haunted Hospitals		Haunted Hospitals		Haunted Hospitals		Haunted Hospitals	
TruTV	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Movie: The Mask ★★★ (1994)			
TV Land	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	(:05) King	(:40) King
TV One	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single
USA Network	Law & Order: SVU		**WWE NXT** (Live)				(:10) Movie: The Expendables ★★ (2010)			
VH1	(6:00) Movie: Beverly Hills Cop ★★★			Movie: Beverly Hills Cop II ★★ (1987)				Movie: Beverly Hills Cop III ★★ (1994)		
WNC8	Larry K	ScalpMED	Fed Gov	Fed Gov Today with		**World News**	**WJLA News**	Leg Pain?	**The National Desk** (Live)	

LEGEND: Bold indicates new or live programs ◆ High Definition Movie Ratings (from TMS) ★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Fair ★ Poor No stars: not rated

the GUIDE to the Lively Arts

SHOW NAME	DATES & TIMES	DESCRIPTION	DETAILS	PRICE	ADDITIONAL
MUSIC - ORCHESTRAL					
THE APOLLO ORCHESTRA **The Apollo Orchestra Presents David Neely and Hai-Ye Ni**	September 24 at 4:00 PM	The Apollo Orchestra presents their first concert of the season with cellist Hai-Ye Ni, conducted by David Neely. This free concert features Wagner, Barber, and Brahms.	**Cultural Arts Center of Montgomery College 7995 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910 https://www.apolloorchestra.com/event/september-24/**	Free	Advanced ticket registration highly recommended. Free parking.

The Guide to the Lively Arts appears: • Sunday in Arts & Style. deadline: Tues., 12 noon
• Monday in Style. deadline: Friday, 12 noon • Tuesday in Style. deadline: Mon., 12 noon • Wednesday in Style. deadline: Tues., 12 noon
• Thursday in Style. deadline: Wed., 12 noon • Friday in Weekend. deadline: Tues., 12 noon • Saturday in Style. deadline: Friday, 12 noon
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To reach a representative, call: 202-334-7006 | guidetoarts@washpost.com
22-0776

At book party, love for author, fear of subject

BY ROXANNE ROBERTS

If you write a book but no one throws you a book party, does it even count? Not in Washington.

The party Sunday night was for Walter Isaacson, best-selling biographer and darling of this city's intelligentsia, and his new 688-page opus, "Elon Musk." An intimate group of 165 A-list friends and admirers — David Rubenstein, Nancy Pelosi, Roger Sant, Steve Ricchetti, Steve and Jean Case, Sharon Rockefeller, David Axelrod, Kara Swisher, Bob Barnett and Don Graham, to name just a few — gathered in the soaring Grand Salon of the Renwick Gallery.

Isaacson has a fascination with geniuses — Albert Einstein, Benjamin Franklin, Steve Jobs, Leonardo da Vinci — but this is his first biography of someone at the white-hot center of current events. His friends love Walter as much as they fear Musk, and the party combined rapturous praise with a kind of existential dread about the controversial tech megalomaniac. The book "can depress you and make you happy, in some ways," Rubenstein, billionaire philanthropist and chair of the Kennedy Center, told the guests. "It can depress you, because when you read it, you realize how much Elon Musk has accomplished in his life compared to most people. ... It can actually make you happy, though, in the sense that you realize you don't have the mental anguish and tortures and complicated personality he has."

The crux of the unease: Can you trust that a mercurial multibillionaire with daddy issues, a superhero complex and unfettered power will do the right thing? The book has already divided reviewers, who call it a brilliant and essential dive into the mind of one of the 21st century's most influential men — or an apologia for Musk's arrogance and excesses.

The book came out last week, and Isaacson has already issued a clarification concerning Musk's use of his Starlink technology in the Russian-Ukrainian war. Isaacson, who spent two years reporting and researching Musk's life, wrote that he disabled the satellite system over Crimea on the eve of a Ukrainian offensive; Musk contends that he shut it down much earlier. Isaacson said future editions of the book will reflect Musk's version of events.



ROXANNE ROBERTS/THE WASHINGTON POST

"Elon Musk," by Walter Isaacson, left, came out last week. David Rubenstein, right, co-hosted a party for the best-selling biographer.

But the fact that Musk, a private citizen, played a crucial role in a foreign war is the bigger issue. The mind behind Tesla and SpaceX appeared on Capitol Hill last week to share his views on artificial intelligence. He owns X, formerly Twitter, and posts his opinions to a global audience almost daily. Like so many billionaires, Musk has extrapolated his business success into unshakable beliefs on hundreds of other topics. Literally and figuratively, this driverless car is on the road, and no one knows whether it's safe.

"The dream of a biographer and a reader is to know — in real time — what one of the most fascinating, consequential people on earth is thinking," said Axios co-founder Mike Allen at the party. "Walter captured that as only Walter can."

"Walter is telling the story of an incredible mind that gave us the electric car and accelerated our own space exploration," said Eric Motley, deputy director of the National Gallery of Art. "I think Musk, in many ways, is an iteration of a long line of innovation and creativity that we'll fully appreciate — the opportunities, challenges and the ironies — with the progression of time."

Motley co-hosted the party with Rubenstein, interim Washington Post CEO Patty Stonesifer, Michael Kinsley, Sally Quinn, Donna Brazile, and Evan and Oscie Thomas. Quinn, a friend from back when Isaacson was at Time magazine, called him a "good old Southern boy. ... He's always had this talent for disarming and charming people." Everything he's touched, she said, "turned to gold."

After specialty cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, the man of the hour took the stage for brief remarks.

Isaacson said he was drawn to his subject by Musk's innovation and risk-taking with the electric car and space exploration. Early in Isaacson's reporting, Musk bought Twitter, and the stakes spiked. "He's a person who's a drama addict," the author explained. "He's always looking to push more drama and stir things up."

Isaacson views Musk as a Shakespearean character filled with contradictions: "In this day and age, we always have hot takes. We call somebody a hero, we call them a villain, ... everybody gets demonized or canonized." Isaacson said the urge is to focus on Musk's darker sides — but that would be a mistake. "You're going to have to remember — like a lot of people you know, including some in this room — that the dark and the light strands are interwoven and sometimes you can't pull them out without destroying the whole fabric."

Isaacson conceded that the multibillionaire has more power than he probably should, but praised the transfer of some of the Starlink technology to the U.S. military. "I think he understood that's really something government should do. I do think it would be better if there were 10 other companies that could get rockets into orbit, that could do communication satellites, that could make electric vehicles."

Every guest left the party with a signed copy of the biography, which allowed them — as Rubenstein joked — to see whether their name was included in the index. Another grand Washington party in the books, if you will.

MOVIE DIRECTORY

(!) No Pass/No Discount Ticket

Tuesday, September 19, 2023
www.washingtonpost.com/movies

DISTRICT

AMC Georgetown 14
3111 K Street N.W.
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 2:05-4:45-7:25-10:05
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) CC: 2:30
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 2:25-6:10-9:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 2:20-5:00-10:10
Jawan (Hindi) 5:35-9:10
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:50
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:10-4:50-10:10
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 2:00-4:15-9:55
Bottoms (R) CC: 2:40-4:55-7:15-9:55
Dumb Money (R) CC: 1:45-4:15-5:15-6:45-9:15-10:15
The Retirement Plan (R) CC: 2:30-5:00-7:30-10:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) OC: 9:35
The Equalizer 3 (R) OC: 7:35
The Nun II (R) OC: 7:30
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 2:00-4:30-9:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 6:35
Dumb Money (R) OC: 7:45
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) OC: 7:00

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - DC Bryant Street
630 Rhode Island Ave NE
Barbie (PG-13) 3:30
Oppenheimer (R) 3:15
The Equalizer 3 (R) 2:30-3:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 4:00-7:00-10:00
Surprise Film (NR) 8:00
EVANGELION:3.0+1.01 Thrice Upon a Time (Shin Evangelion Gekijôban) 7:30
Barbie (PG-13) 10:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 6:00-9:00
The Nun II (R) 3:15
Bottoms (R) 5:15-9:15-10:00; 2:15-3:45
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 8:45
The Nun II (R) 6:15-9:15
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 2:45
Barbie (PG-13) 6:45
Oppenheimer (R) 5:45
The Equalizer 3 (R) 5:30
Bottoms (R) 6:30

Angelika Pop-Up at Union Market
550 Penn Street NE - Unit E
Barbie (PG-13) 2:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 5:00
Bottoms (R) 4:30
Barbie (PG-13) 4:40-7:15
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 2:30-7:30
Bottoms (R) 2:15-7:00

Avalon Theatre
5612 Connecticut Avenue
Golda (PG-13) 12:45-3:05-5:25-7:45
Afire 12:15-2:30-5:00-7:30

Landmark Atlantic Plumbing Cinema
807 V Street Northwest
Barbie (PG-13) 7:20
Oppenheimer (R) 4:00-7:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 4:50-7:40
The Nun II (R) 4:10-7:10
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 7:50
Bottoms (R) 7:00
Barbie (PG-13) 4:20
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 5:00
Bottoms (R) 4:40

Landmark E Street Cinema
555 11th Street Northwest
Wild at Heart (R) 3:00-7:00
Barbie (PG-13) 12:30-3:15-7:00
How to Blow Up a Pipeline (R) 3:10
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30
Theater Camp (PG-13) 1:30
Fremont 1:45-4:00-7:00
Cassandro (R) 4:15-7:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 5:30-7:40
Bottoms (R) 1:25-3:45-4:15-7:10
The Last Rider (PG-13) 12:45
Cassandro (R) 1:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:00

Regal Gallery Place
701 Seventh Street Northwest
Barbie (PG-13) 12:00-6:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:10-4:30-8:10
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:10-5:50-8:40
Jawan (Hindi) 12:30-4:40-8:20
The Nun II (R) 3:00-8:50
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:40-2:10-3:30-4:50-6:20-7:30-9:10
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 2:00-4:10-6:40-9:10
Bottoms (R) 12:50-6:05-8:45
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 12:50-4:00-7:20
The Retirement Plan (R) 12:00-2:40-5:20-8:30
Oppenheimer 70mm (R) 11:50-3:50-8:00
Barbie (PG-13) 1:30-5:00-7:50
The Equalizer 3 (R) OC: 3:05
The Nun II (R) 12:20-1:20-3:10-6:10-9:00
Bottoms (R) OC: 3:20

MARYLAND

AFI Silver Theatre Cultural Center
8633 Colesville Road
Cleopatra Jones (NR) 9:25
EVANGELION:3.0+1.01 Thrice Upon a Time (Shin Evangelion Gekijôban) 8:30
Oppenheimer (R) 5:30
Fremont 1:30-3:30-9:00
Mad Max: Fury Road (R) 7:00
The Departed (R) 1:45
The Goodbye Girl (PG) 4:40

AMC Academy 8
6198 Greenbelt Road
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:00-4:10-7:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:40-4:40-8:00
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 1:50-4:50-7:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:30-4:30-6:45
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:15-7:40
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 2:00-4:45-7:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 2:10-5:00-7:50
The Nun II (R) 4:00

AMC Annapolis Mall 11
1020 Annapolis Mall Road
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 11:00-1:40-4:00-6:45-10:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 11:30-2:00-4:20
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 12:10-2:50-6:40-9:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 11:10-2:05-4:30-6:55-10:15
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 11:20-2:00-4:40-7:20-9:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 11:50-3:50
The Nun II (R) CC: 12:00-2:40-5:20-7:00-8:00-9:40-10:40
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 11:40-2:15-4:50-7:30-10:10
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 11:00-1:20-5:00-7:25-9:50
Bottoms (R) CC: 7:50-10:30
Camp Hideout (PG) CC: 11:00-1:30-4:00-6:30-9:00

AMC Center Park 8
4001 Powder Mill Rd.
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:30-4:20-7:20
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:10-4:10-7:10
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:00-4:00-6:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:40-4:10-7:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:15-5:00-7:50
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 2:00-4:30-7:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:50-4:50-7:40
Bottoms (R) CC: 4:40
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 1:20-7:00

AMC Columbia 14
10300 Little Patuxent Parkway
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:00-3:45-6:30-9:15
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:30-4:00-6:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 3:40-6:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:15-4:00-6:45-9:30
Jawan (Hindi) 2:00-6:00-9:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 9:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:00-2:00-3:45-6:30-9:40
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 3:15-6:00-8:30
Oppenheimer: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 2:00-6:00-9:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:45-4:10-6:35-9:10
Bottoms (R) CC: 1:10-9:35
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 6:30-9:30
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 1:45-4:15-7:00-9:30
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00
The Retirement Plan (R) CC: 1:40-4:15-6:50-9:25
The Inventor (PG) CC: 1:30-4:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 1:00-5:00-7:45

AMC DINE-IN Rio Cinemas 18
9811 Washingtonian Center
The Dark Knight (PG-13) CC: 4:15
The Lego Movie (PG) CC: 12:15-1:30
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:20-4:15-7:10-10:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 12:25-5:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 12:10-3:10-6:15
Strays (R) CC: 10:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:10-4:00-6:45-9:30
Jawan (Hindi) 2:00-6:00-9:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 12:00-3:15-6:30-9:45
The Nun II (R) CC: 6:10-6:45-9:00-10:10
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 1:15-4:00-6:45-9:30
Oppenheimer: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 1:00-5:00-6:00-9:30
Talk to Me (R) CC: 6:15-8:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30-10:00
Bottoms (R) CC: 7:45-10:10
Retribution (R) CC: 1:15-3:40
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 2:15-5:00-7:45-10:30
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) CC: 3:00
The Retirement Plan (R) CC: 12:30-3:25-6:30-9:15
The Inventor (PG) CC: 12:45-3:30
Coco (2017) Disney100 (PG) 1:40-4:15-6:50-9:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem 3D (PG) CC: 3:00-8:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 9:15
The Nun II (R) OC: 1:15
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 12:15-3:00-5:45-8:30
The Nun II (R) 4:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) OC: 10:00

AMC Loews St. Charles Town Ctr. 9
11115 Mall Circle
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 4:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 2:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:00-4:00-7:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 12:45-3:30-6:15-7:15
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:00-4:45-7:30
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 12:00-1:45-2:45-4:30-5:30-8:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 2:45-7:15
Barbie (PG-13) 2:15-7:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 5:00-8:30
Bottoms (R) 12:30-6:00

AMC Magic Johnson Capital Center 12
800 Shoppers Way
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:15-4:15-7:00-9:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:30-4:00-6:35-9:15
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:00-3:30-6:25-9:25
Strays (R) CC: 6:45
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 4:45-7:45
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:15-4:00-6:45-9:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:15-4:00-6:40-9:20
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 5:15-8:00
Talk to Me (R) CC: 1:45-4:15-9:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:10-4:00-6:30-9:00
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 2:00-5:15-8:30
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 1:00-3:40-6:15-9:00
The Retirement Plan (R) CC: 1:10-3:45-6:20-9:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) OC: 2:40

AMC Montgomery 16
7101 Democracy Boulevard
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 2:15-5:00-7:45-10:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 2:45-5:30-8:00-10:30
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 2:00-6:00-7:50-10:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 5:30-7:15-11:00
Strays (R) CC: 11:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 2:20-5:00-7:45-10:35
Elemental (PG) CC: 3:00-5:45
Jawan (Hindi) 2:10-6:00-9:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 2:05-5:15-8:30-10:15
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:30-4:15-7:00-8:00-10:45
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 2:00-3:30-4:45-6:15-7:30-9:00-10:15
Golda (PG-13) CC: 3:15-8:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 2:45-5:45-8:15-10:45
Bottoms (R) CC: 3:00-5:20-8:30
The Retirement Plan (R) CC: 2:25-5:05-7:35-10:10
The Inventor (PG) CC: 2:15-4:45
The Nun II (R) OC: 9:45; 5:15

Cinemark Egyptian 24 and XD
7000 Arundel Mills Circle
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:25-3:30-6:40-9:45
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) 10:55-1:50-4:50-7:45-10:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) 10:55-11:25-1:40-4:25-5:00-7:10-7:50-9:55-10:35
Jawan (Hindi) XD: 11:15-3:00-6:45-10:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 11:50-3:20-7:00-10:10
The Nun II (R) 10:45-1:35-4:25-7:15-10:05; 10:30-11:05-1:55-4:45-5:05-7:35-7:55-10:25-10:45
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 11:30-12:00-2:10-2:40-4:50-5:20-7:30-8:00-10:10-10:40
Talk to Me (R) 11:20-2:00-4:40-7:25-10:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:35-2:05-4:35-6:35-7:05-9:05-9:35
Bottoms (R) 11:10-1:45-4:30-7:20-9:50
The Retirement Plan (R) 11:40-2:20-5:00-7:40-10:20
Camp Hideout (PG) 10:50-1:30-4:10-7:40-10:25
Strays (R) 2:15
Jawan (Hindi) 10:40-2:25-6:10-9:55
The Nun II (R) 10:45-1:35-4:25-7:15-10:05
Haunted Mansion (PG-13) 11:55-3:25
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) XD: 11:00-1:40-4:20-7:00-9:40
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 10:30
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 7:00
The Inventor (PG) 10:35-1:05-3:35
Coco (2017) Disney100 (PG) 10:30-1:10-3:50-6:30
Mark Antony (Tamil) 1:20-9:10
Barbie (PG-13) 10:50-1:45-4:35-7:25-10:15
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 10:45-1:25-4:05-6:50-9:30
Oppenheimer (R) 10:35-2:35-6:35-10:35

Cinépolis Gaithersburg
629 Center Point Way
Barbie (PG-13) 10:00-1:00-4:00-7:00-10:20
Oppenheimer (R) 10:20-3:40-8:20
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:00-4:20-7:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 10:40-2:00-5:00-8:00-11:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:00-2:30-6:20-10:00
The Nun II (R) 11:40-2:40-4:40-5:40-8:40-10:40
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:00-1:40-3:00-6:00-7:40-9:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 10:00-11:00-12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40

Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema
7235 Woodmont Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 1:00-1:45-4:15-7:15-8:00
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) 6:45
Oppenheimer (R) 1:10-3:15-7:00
How to Blow Up a Pipeline (R) 2:15-6:45
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 1:15-3:45-4:30-7:00
Golda (PG-13) 1:05-4:40
Cassandro (R) 1:30-4:45-7:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:05-3:15-5:20-7:30
The Last Rider (PG-13) 4:30

Landmark at Annapolis Harbour Center
2474 Solomons Island Road Unit H-1
Wild at Heart (R) 1:00-7:30
Barbie (PG-13) 1:15-4:00-7:25
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 4:10
Oppenheimer (R) 1:00-3:30-7:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 1:45-4:35-7:20
The Nun II (R) 2:00-4:40-7:30
How to Blow Up a Pipeline (R) 1:45-7:15
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 1:05-4:15-7:15
Cassandro (R) 1:30-4:30-7:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:20-3:45-7:10
The Last Rider (PG-13) 4:30

Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
Fremont 7:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 7:30

Phoenix Theatres Marlow 6
3899 Branch Avenue
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 2:05-4:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:50-4:45-7:35
The Equalizer 3 (R) 2:45-4:35-5:35-8:15-8:30
The Nun II (R) 2:30-5:00-7:30
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 1:00-3:30-6:00-7:30-8:30

Regal Cinemas Majestic Stadium 20 & IMAX
900 Ellsworth Drive
Barbie (PG-13) 1:10-4:15-7:10-10:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:25-2:55
Oppenheimer (R) 12:40-4:30-8:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:30-3:40-6:50-10:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:25-3:10-6:30-9:20
Jawan (Hindi) 12:00-1:00-3:45-4:45-7:30-8:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 5:40-9:30
The Nun II (R) 12:30-1:30-3:20-4:20-6:40-7:10-9:00-9:30-10:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:15-1:00-3:00-3:40-5:45-8:30-10:00
Talk to Me (R) 9:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:45-3:10-5:55-8:30
Bottoms (R) 1:10-3:50-6:10-8:55
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 12:00-3:25-6:40-9:55
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 12:45-3:30-6:15-9:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 12:40-3:30-6:15-9:00
The Inventor (PG) 1:20-3:55
Coco (2017) Disney100 (PG) 12:00-3:00-6:00
Buhey Bariyan (Buhe Bariyan) 1:20-4:40-8:00
Lift (PG-13) 12:50-3:40-6:20-9:15

Regal Germantown
20000 Century Boulevard
Barbie (PG-13) 1:00-3:50-6:40-9:40
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani 12:20-4:30-8:30
Oppenheimer (R) 11:35-3:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:25-2:10-5:00-7:50
Jawan (Hindi) 11:30-1:10-3:20-4:50-7:10-8:50
The Nun II (R) 7:30-9:20
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 11:40-12:30-1:30-2:30-3:10-4:10-5:20-6:10-6:50-8:00-9:10-9:50
The Hill (PG) 11:50-3:00-6:20-9:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:10-2:40-5:40-8:10
Bottoms (R) 12:00-2:50-5:50-8:20
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 12:50-4:40-9:00
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00

Regal Hyattsville Royale
6505 America Blvd.
Barbie (PG-13) 12:05-2:50-5:45-8:35
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:50-3:25-5:50-8:40
Oppenheimer (R) 12:30-4:20-6:50
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:00-2:55-5:50-8:10
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) 3:50-8:15
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:15-2:55-5:30-8:25
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:10
The Nun II (R) 12:00-1:20-2:45-5:35-6:40-8:10
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:20-1:35-3:00-4:10-5:35-7:00-8:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:55-3:15-5:55-8:50

Regal Laurel Towne Centre
14716 Baltimore Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 12:20-3:10-6:00-8:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 1:45-4:20
Oppenheimer (R) 12:30-4:30-8:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 3:00-6:20-9:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 2:20-5:00-7:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 7:00
The Nun II (R) 12:40-2:00-3:30-4:50-6:10-7:30-9:40
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:15-1:30-4:00-6:30-9:10
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 2:10-4:40-7:10
Bottoms (R) 12:50-3:20-5:45-8:15
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 12:25-2:45-5:20-8:00

Regal Rockville Center
199 East Montgomery Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 1:10-4:20-7:20
Oppenheimer (R) 11:50-4:30-8:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:40-3:50-6:50-9:35
The Nun II (R) 12:30-1:50-3:20-4:40-6:20-7:40-9:30
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 1:20-4:10-7:10
Golda (PG-13) 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:10
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:10-2:50-5:20-8:10
Bottoms (R) 11:40-2:10-4:50-7:30
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 7:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 1:00-3:40-6:40-9:25
No More Bets 11:30-2:40-9:20

Regal Waugh Chapel & IMAX
1419 South Main Chapel Way
Barbie (PG-13) 1:10-4:00-7:00-9:50
Oppenheimer (R) 12:30-4:30-8:40
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:00-3:10-6:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:40-1:40-3:50-4:50-6:50-7:50-9:40
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 9:20
The Nun II (R) 12:10-1:00-3:20-6:20-9:10-10:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:50-1:20-1:50-3:40-4:10-4:40-6:30-7:00-7:30-9:20-9:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:10-3:00-6:10-9:10
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 12:20-3:10-6:00-8:50
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00

Regal Westview & IMAX
5243 Buckeystown Pike
Barbie (PG-13) 12:10-6:00
Oppenheimer (R) 12:30-4:20-7:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:50-3:30-6:15-9:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:40-3:50-8:10
The Nun II (R) 3:10-8:50
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:20-1:00-3:00-3:40-5:40-8:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:40-4:10-6:45-9:20
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 1:30-4:30-7:15
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 7:00
Barbie (PG-13) 1:10-4:00-6:50-9:30
The Nun II (R) 1:50-7:50

Xscape Theatres Brandywine 14
7710 Matapeake Business Drive
The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 1:00-7:00
Barbie (PG-13) 12:55-3:35-6:35-9:25
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 11:25-1:45-4:25-6:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:05-4:00-7:05-9:05
Batman Begins (PG-13) 1:30
The Dark Knight (PG-13) 5:00
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) 1:25-4:15
The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 8:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 3:55-6:55
Talk to Me (R) 1:35-9:55
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:45-2:05-4:45-7:15-9:35
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:00-11:40-1:40-2:20-4:20-5:10-7:00-7:40-9:30
The Nun II (R) 11:20-2:00-2:40-4:40-5:20-7:30-10:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 11:10-1:10-4:10-6:50-9:20
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 10:50-1:50-4:50-7:50-9:10
The Retirement Plan (R) 10:50-7:10-9:50

iPic Pike & Rose
11830 Grand Park Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 2:45-6:30-10:30
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) 2:30-6:15-9:15
Oppenheimer (R) 3:00-6:45-9:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 3:30-6:00-10:45
The Equalizer 3 (R) 3:15-7:00-10:00
The Nun II (R) 4:15-7:15-11:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) (!) 3:00-6:00-9:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 3:45-7:30-10:15

VIRGINIA

AMC Courthouse Plaza 8
2150 Clarendon Blvd.
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 2:10-4:50-7:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 4:10
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 12:40-3:10-7:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 12:10-6:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:30-4:30-7:10
The Nun II (R) CC: 12:05-2:40-5:20-8:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 12:30-3:00-5:30-8:10
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 11:50-2:50-5:10-7:40
Bottoms (R) CC: 12:10-2:30-5:00-7:20

AMC Hoffman Center 22
206 Swamp Fox Rd.
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:00-1:45-3:45-4:30-6:30-7:15-9:15-10:00
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:45-4:30-6:00-7:15-10:00; 3:00-9:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) OC: 6:00; 1:00-3:30-8:30
The Dark Knight (PG-13) CC: 6:00
The Lego Movie (PG) CC: 5:00
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:30-4:30-7:30-9:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:30-4:00-6:30-9:45
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 2:30-4:30-8:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:00-7:00
Strays (R) CC: 6:30
Jawan (Hindi) 2:15-6:00-9:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:45-3:30-6:45-9:45
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
Oppenheimer: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 1:30
Talk to Me (R) CC: 2:00-7:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:00-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
Bottoms (R) CC: 2:30-5:00-7:30-10:00
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 6:30-9:45
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 5:30-8:00
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) CC: 2:15-10:00
The Retirement Plan (R) CC: 2:30-5:15-8:00-9:30
The Inventor (PG) CC: 1:30-4:00
No More Bets 3:00-9:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 4:00-10:00

AMC Potomac Mills 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle
The Lego Movie (PG) CC: 4:45
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 2:20-5:00-7:50
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 2:15-4:45
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 6:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:10-4:15-7:15
Strays (R) CC: 7:15
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 1:50-7:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 2:00-4:50-7:40
Elemental (PG) CC: 3:40
Jawan (Hindi) 1:10-4:50-8:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 3:20-8:50
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:00-2:00-4:40-9:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 1:30-4:15-7:00
Talk to Me (R) CC: 6:20-8:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:15-5:00-7:30
Bottoms (R) CC: 1:00-6:30
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 6:40
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) CC: 2:40
The Retirement Plan (R) CC: 1:15-3:50-6:30-9:00
The Inventor (PG) CC: 1:30-4:10
Coco (2017) Disney100 (PG) 1:10-3:45
The Nun II (R) OC: 6:15
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 1:00-3:45-6:20-8:50
The Nun II (R) 7:30

AMC Shirlington 7
2772 South Randolph St.
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 2:15-5:00-7:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:50
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 12:40-2:50-6:40
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 11:55-4:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:10-4:50-7:30
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00
Bottoms (R) CC: 12:00-7:35

AMC Tysons Corner 16
7850e Tysons Corner Center
The Retirement Plan (R) OC: 8:25
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 12:25-3:10-5:55-8:40
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) CC: 12:15-2:00-5:10-8:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 12:05-2:45
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani 1:15-4:50-8:20
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 12:40-6:05
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 12:10-2:55-5:45-8:35
Jawan (Hindi) 1:00-4:35-8:10
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 5:05-8:15
The Nun II (R) CC: 12:45-3:30-6:15-9:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 12:50-3:35-6:15-8:55
Oppenheimer: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) 4:45-8:35
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:30-3:05-5:35-8:05
Bottoms (R) CC: 3:40-9:00
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) CC: 12:00-2:40-5:25-8:00
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00
The Retirement Plan (R) CC: 12:20-3:15-5:50
Coco (2017) Disney100 (PG) 11:55-2:25
No More Bets 5:40-8:50
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 1:45-4:30-7:15
Oppenheimer: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 12:55

AMC Worldgate 9
13025 Worldgate Drive
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 4:15-7:00
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 3:00-6:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 3:30-6:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 4:45-7:15
Jawan (Hindi) 3:15-6:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 4:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 5:00-8:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) CC: 5:15-7:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 3:45-6:15
Bottoms (R) CC: 7:30

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - One Loudoun
20575 East Hampton Plaza
Surprise Film (NR) 8:00
Barbie (PG-13) 2:00-3:15
Oppenheimer (R) 2:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 3:45
Jawan (Hindi) 3:15
The Nun II (R) 3:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 2:00
Bottoms (R) 10:40
Barbie (PG-13) 5:00-7:30-10:15
Oppenheimer (R) 6:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 4:30-7:15-10:15
Jawan (Hindi) 6:15-9:00
The Nun II (R) 6:45-9:45
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 4:00-7:00-10:00; 5:00-6:00-8:00

Angelika Film Center Mosaic
2911 District Ave
Barbie (PG-13) 12:30-3:00-5:30-8:00
Oppenheimer (R) 11:35-3:20-7:05
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:40-2:10-4:35-7:10
Jawan (Hindi) 7:15
The Nun II (R) 11:45-2:20-5:00-7:35
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 2:30
The Inventor (PG) 11:25-4:40
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 11:15-12:15-4:45-7:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:45-3:00-5:15-7:30
Bottoms (R) 1:30-3:45-6:00-8:15

CMX Village 14
1600 Village Market Boulevard
Barbie (PG-13) 1:25-4:30-7:15
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) 12:20-4:00-7:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:00-2:25
Oppenheimer (R) 11:45-3:35-7:20
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:35-6:50
The Equalizer 3 (R) 1:10-4:15-7:05
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 3:40
The Nun II (R) 11:55-1:00-2:30-3:50-5:10-6:30-7:55
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:45-1:50-3:25-4:25-5:00-6:00-7:00-7:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:30-1:40-2:55-4:05-5:15-6:35-7:40
The Retirement Plan (R) 12:10-2:40-5:25-8:00
Camp Hideout (PG) 11:50-2:15-4:50-7:30

Cinema Arts Theatre
9650 Unit 14 Main St.
Barbie (PG-13) 9:45-12:05-2:35-7:15
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 10:00-12:20-2:25-4:45-7:20
The Miracle Club (PG-13) 9:55-12:00-4:40-7:00
Golda (PG-13) 9:50-12:10-2:30-5:00-7:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 10:05-12:25-2:20-4:35-7:10
Bottoms (R) 12:15-2:45-5:05-7:40
Jules (PG-13) 4:55; 9:55-2:40

Cinemark Centreville 12
6201 Multiplex Drive
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 3:15
Jawan (Hindi) 4:35
Talk to Me (R) 5:55-8:30
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 1:00-8:20
Mark Antony (Tamil) 1:05-7:40
Barbie (PG-13) 12:55-3:50-6:40-9:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:40
Oppenheimer (R) 12:10-4:10-8:10
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:35-3:45-6:50-9:55
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:25-4:25-7:10-10:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 1:15
The Nun II (R) 4:50
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:00-1:40-2:40-4:20-5:20-7:00-8:00-9:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:25
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 3:20-6:30-9:45
The Nun II (R) 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20

Cinemark Fairfax Corner and XD
11900 Palace Way
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:15-3:15
Jawan (Hindi) 1:45-5:30-9:15
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) XD: 2:00-4:40-7:20-10:00
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 6:05-9:35
Barbie (PG-13) 12:55-3:45-6:40-9:30
Oppenheimer (R) 12:20-4:20-8:25
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:35-3:40-6:45-9:50
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:05-2:50-5:35-8:30
Jawan (Hindi) XD: 12:30-4:15-8:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:10-3:20-6:30-9:40
The Nun II (R) 12:45-1:55-3:35-4:50-6:35-7:40-9:25-10:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30-10:05
Bottoms (R) 12:25-2:55-5:25-7:55-10:25
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:20-3:00-5:40-8:20

Medal of Honor Theater - NMMC
18900 Jefferson Davis Highway
We, the Marines (NR) 9:30-10:30-11:30-1:00-2:00-3:00-4:00

Regal Ballston Quarter
671 North Glebe Road
Barbie (PG-13) 12:10-2:50-5:30-8:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 1:10-3:50-6:20
Oppenheimer (R) 11:40-3:20-7:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:15-3:15-6:05-8:55
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:50-2:40-5:10-7:50
Jawan (Hindi) 12:40-4:30-8:10
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 8:45
The Nun II (R) 12:00-1:00-2:30-3:30-6:10-7:30-8:40
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:20-3:10-6:00-8:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:40-4:00-6:30-9:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 12:30-3:00-5:50-8:30

Regal Dulles Town Center
21100 Dulles Town Circle
Barbie (PG-13) 1:00-3:40-6:30-9:05
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:10-2:30
Oppenheimer (R) 12:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:50-4:45-7:45
Jawan (Hindi) 12:40-4:20-8:15
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:20-3:00-5:45-8:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 5:00-8:30
The Nun II (R) 1:00-4:00-6:50-9:20
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:15-6:00-8:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:40-4:30-7:15-9:30
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 12:30-3:10-6:15-9:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) OC: 3:15

Regal Fairfax Towne Center
4110 West Ox Road
Barbie (PG-13) 12:30-3:10-6:00-8:40
Oppenheimer (R) 12:10-3:50-7:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:50-3:20-6:10-8:45
Jawan (Hindi) 1:00-4:50-8:30
The Nun II (R) 12:40-2:20-3:30-6:20-8:00
Haunted Mansion (PG-13) 1:10
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 1:30-4:20-7:10-9:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:20-2:40-5:00-7:30
Bottoms (R) 4:10-6:30
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 1:20-8:50

Regal Fox & IMAX
22875 Brambleton Plaza
Barbie (PG-13) 11:00-2:00-7:45
Mastaney (Punjabi) 12:10-6:15
The Equalizer 3 (R) 1:00-4:00-10:20
Jawan (Hindi) 11:30-1:30-5:45-8:00-10:00
Jawan (Telugu) 3:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 11:05AM
The Nun II (R) 5:00-10:30
Kushi (Telugu) 1:45-5:30-9:40
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:20-3:10-6:00-8:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:10-1:50-4:20-6:50-9:45
Bottoms (R) 3:50-10:10
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 12:40-4:30-8:30
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 1:20-4:10-7:00-9:50
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 7:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 11:20-2:05-4:50-10:05
Mark Antony (Tamil) 2:25-6:10-9:55
Barbie (PG-13) 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 7:30
The Nun II (R) 12:00-3:00-6:05-9:00
Buhey Bariyan (Buhe Bariyan) 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:15

Regal Kingstowne & RPX
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center
Barbie (PG-13) 1:00-3:40-6:20-9:15
Oppenheimer (R) 12:25-4:55-8:40
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:15-3:05-6:05-9:10
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:35-3:10-5:45-8:30
Jawan (Hindi) 12:30-1:40-4:25-5:20-8:10-9:05
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:50-4:05-7:15-9:30
The Nun II (R) 1:30-4:10-6:45-9:25
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 1:20-3:40-6:30-8:50
The Hill (PG) 12:45-3:50-6:40-9:35
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:20-2:40-5:00-7:20-9:40
The Outlaw Johnny Black (PG-13) 12:05-3:00-6:25-9:20
The Retirement Plan (R) 1:10-3:45-6:35-9:05
The Nun II (R) 12:10-2:50-8:15
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:00-12:40-2:20-3:05-4:40-5:35-7:00-7:55

Regal Manassas & IMAX
11380 Bulloch Drive
Barbie (PG-13) 11:05-2:00-4:50-7:40
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani 11:40-3:30-7:10
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:10-4:20-7:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:15-2:05-4:40-7:30
Jawan (Hindi) 11:10-3:00-6:50
The Nun II (R) 11:30-2:20-7:50
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:00-2:50-8:00
The Hill (PG) 12:10-3:15-6:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:50-2:30-4:55-7:25
Bottoms (R) 11:25-1:55-4:35-7:05
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 11:20-3:10-6:40
A Haunting in Venice: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) 11:00-1:50-4:30-7:00
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) OC: 5:30
The Nun II (R) 12:30-3:20-6:00

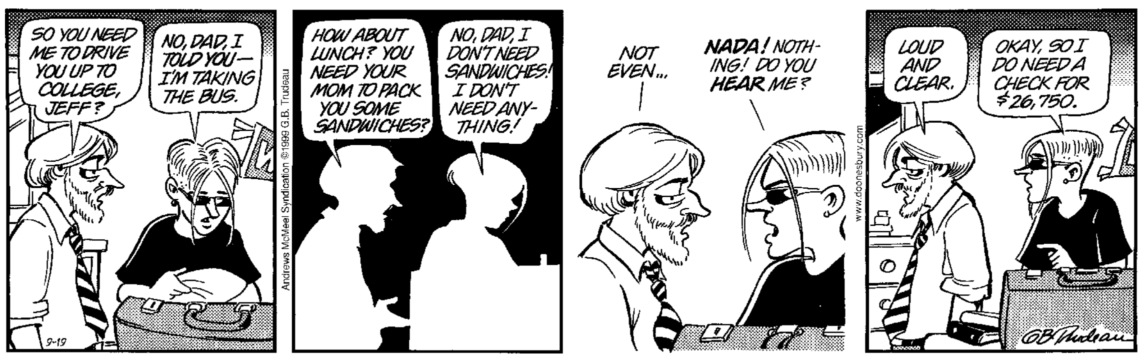
Regal Springfield Town Center
6859 Springfield Mall
Barbie (PG-13) 11:55-3:00-6:00-9:05
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:40-3:10-6:20-9:30
Oppenheimer (R) 12:00-3:50-8:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:20-3:30-6:40-9:45
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:30-1:00-3:20-4:00-6:50-9:40-10:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 2:50-6:05-9:10
The Nun II (R) 12:50-1:50-3:40-4:40-6:30-7:30-9:20-10:20
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 1:20-4:10-7:00-9:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-10:10
Bottoms (R) 12:10
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 7:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 1:40-4:20-7:10-10:00

Regal Virginia Gateway & RPX
8001 Gateway Promenade Place
Barbie (PG-13) 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:00-2:40
Oppenheimer (R) 10:50-9:40
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 11:15-2:10-4:50-7:40-10:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-10:00
Jawan (Hindi) 11:30-3:10-6:50-10:25
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 5:30
The Nun II (R) 11:40-2:20-5:10-8:00-10:30
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 11:20-1:50-4:30-7:20-9:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:10-1:40-4:20-7:00-9:30
Bottoms (R) 8:40
Route 60: The Biblical Highway 4:00-7:00
The Retirement Plan (R) 12:00-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:15
Camp Hideout (PG) 11:00-1:20-3:40-6:00-8:20
A Haunting in Venice (PG-13) 12:50-3:30-6:20-8:50

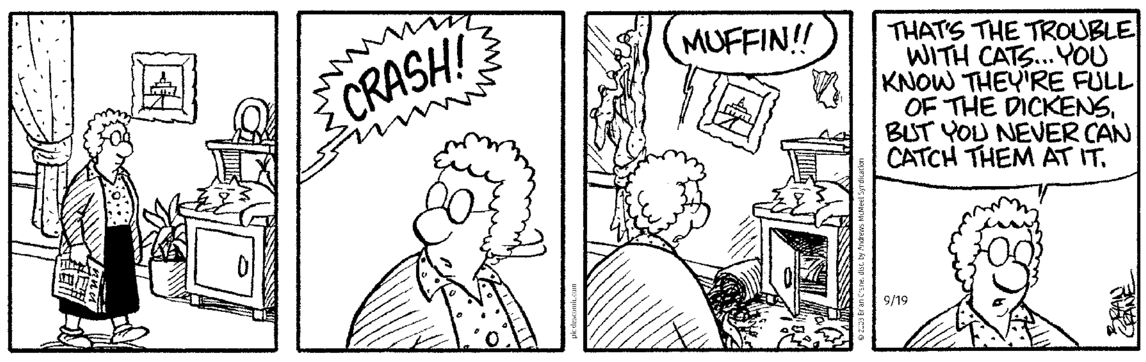
Smithsonian - Airbus IMAX Theater
14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway
Journey to Space (NR) 10:20-1:05-3:50-5:00
Aircraft Carrier: Guardian of the Seas 12:25-4:25
To Fly! (1976) (NR) 10:55-1:45-3:15
Blue Planet (Il pianeta azzurro) (NR) 11:30AM
The Dream is Alive (NR) 2:25

University Mall Theatres
10659-A Braddock Road
Barbie (PG-13) 2:40-7:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:00-4:00-7:00
Elemental (PG) 12:20-5:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:15

CLASSIC DOONESBURY
GARRY TRUDEAU



PICKLES
BRIAN CRANE



BRIDGE

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH
♠ 6 2
♥ A 7 5 2
♦ J 5 4
♣ Q J 6 2

WEST (D)
♠ 5 3
♥ Q 10 6
♦ A K Q 9 6
♣ K 10 3

EAST
♠ A 8
♥ 9 8 3
♦ 10 3 2
♣ 9 8 7 5 4

SOUTH
♠ K Q J 10 9 7 4
♥ K J 4
♦ 8 7
♣ A

The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 ♦	Pass	Pass	4 ♠
All Pass			

Opening lead — ♦ K

"My short-term memory isn't what it used to be," one of my club's seniors said to me.

"Is that your only problem?" I asked.

"Well, my short-term memory isn't what it once was."

Today's declarer forgot the auction from a few minutes earlier. When West's bid of one diamond came around, South bid a direct four spades, expecting North to hold a few points. West led high diamonds, and South ruffed the third diamond and led a trump. East took the ace and returned a trump.

South next led a heart to dummy's ace and a heart back to his jack. West's queen won for down one.

South had a lapse. East had not responded to the opening bid and had shown the ace of trumps. He couldn't have the queen of hearts. South should cash the ace of clubs and run his trumps.

At the end, dummy has the queen of clubs and A-7 of hearts, and South has his three hearts. West must save his king of clubs so only two hearts. South then takes the A-K of hearts, knowing the queen will fall.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold:
♠ 5 3 ♥ Q 10 6
♦ A K Q 9 6 ♣ K 10 3

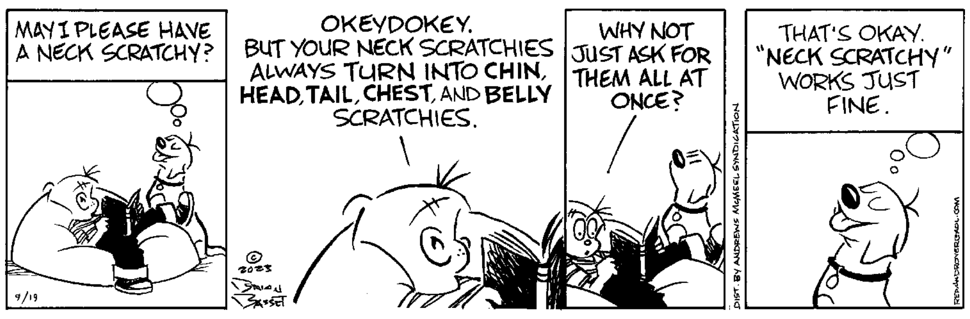
You open one diamond, and your partner responds one heart. What do you say?

ANSWER: You have options. A bid of 1NT would show a balanced minimum but has no appeal with two low spades. A rebid of two diamonds is possible but would suggest six or more diamonds. Raise to two hearts. Auctions are easier when a possible trump suit is mentioned early. If partner bids 2NT next, you will bid 3NT or three diamonds.

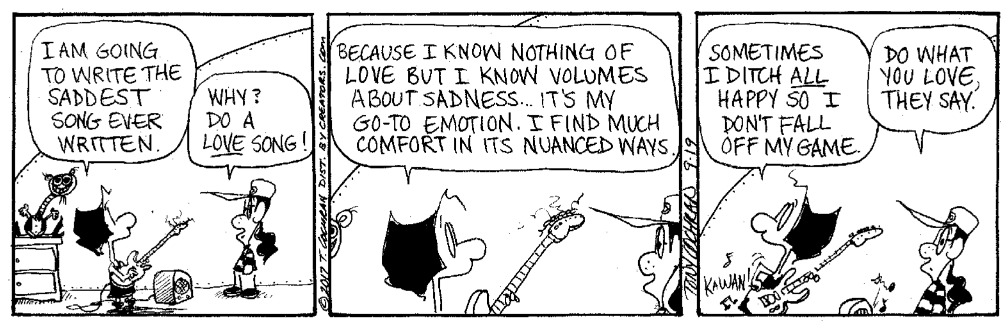
— *Frank Stewart*

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RED AND ROVER
BRIAN BASSET



AGNES
TONY COCHRAN



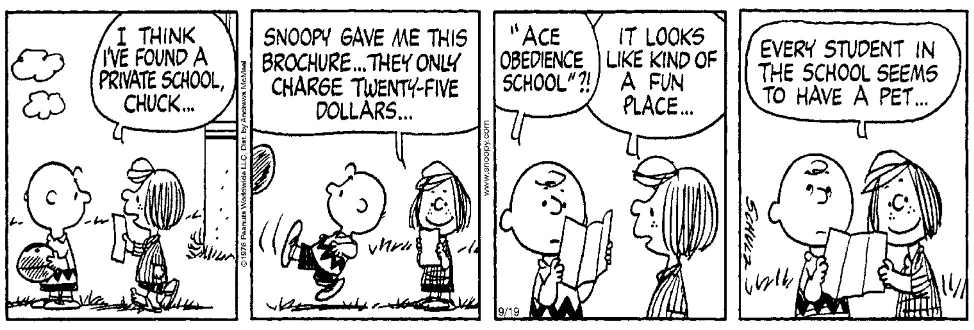
FRANK AND ERNEST
TOM THAVES



WUMO
MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHALER



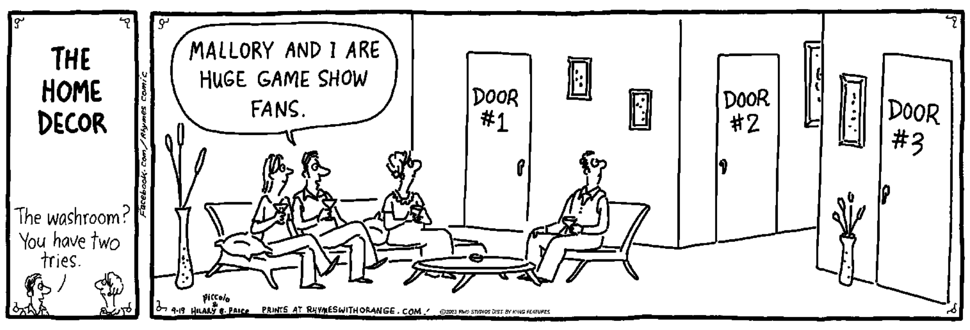
CLASSIC PEANUTS
CHARLES SCHULZ



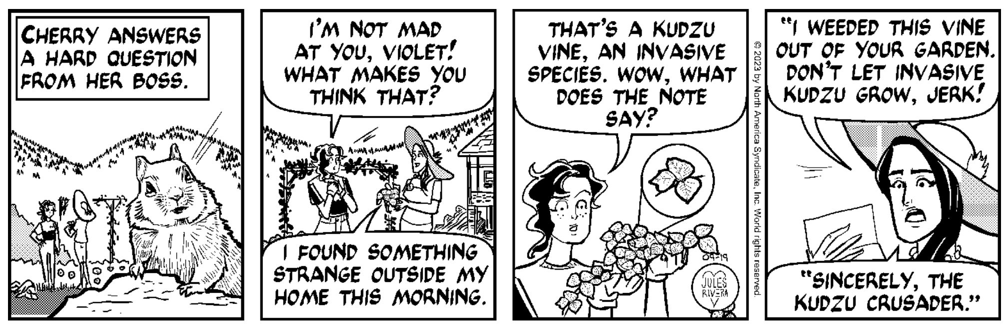
MIKE DU JOUR
MIKE LESTER



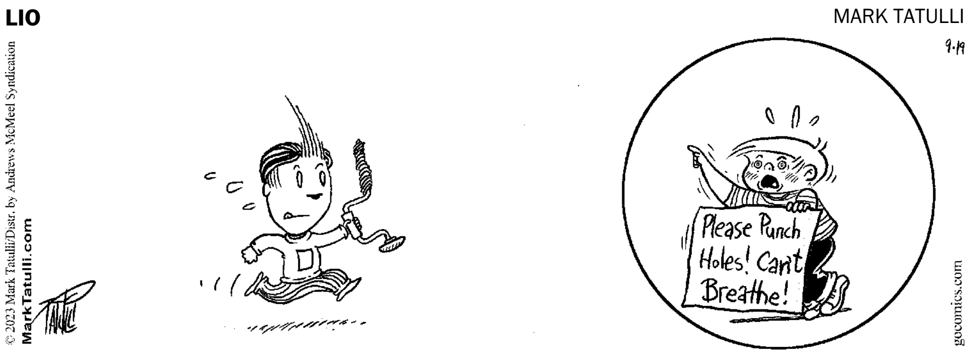
RHYMES WITH ORANGE
HILARY PRICE



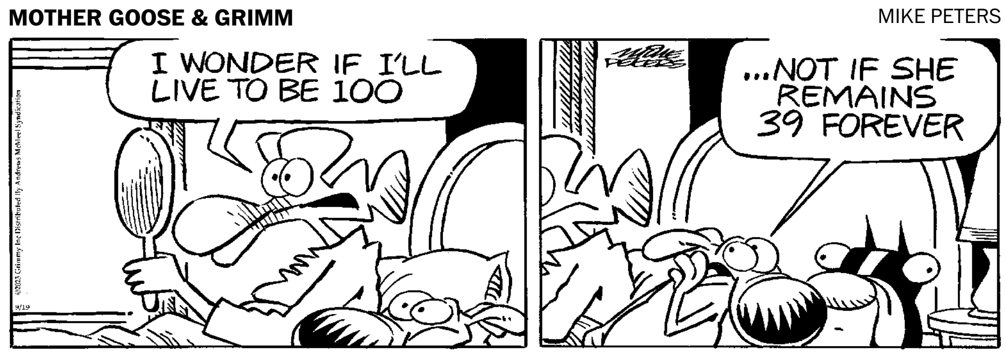
MARK TRAIL
JULES RIVERA



LIO
MARK TATULLI



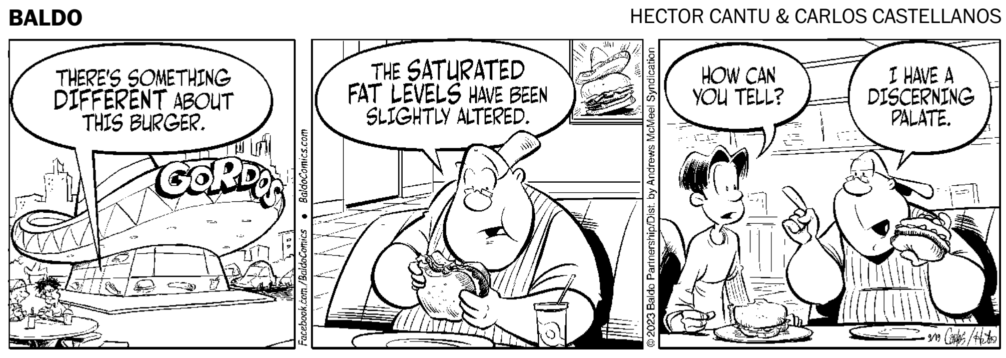
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM
MIKE PETERS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE
CHRIS BROWNE



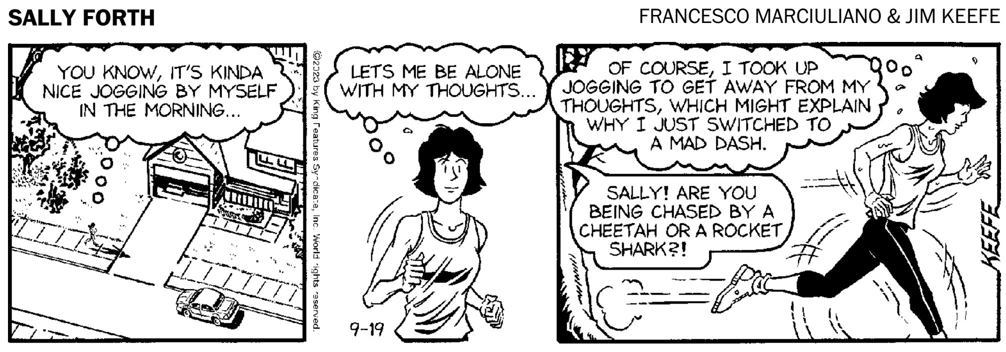
BALDO
HECTOR CANTU & CARLOS CASTELLANOS



BLONDIE
DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL



SALLY FORTH
FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

	2			1	9	4	6	
		9		5				
6				2			7	
9						6	8	7
8	6			9			5	2
2	5	7						1
	9			3				6
				7		5		
	3	1	8	6			9	

9/19

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

SCRABBLE GRAMS

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A1 A1 E1 P3 L1 C3 B3 — 3rd Letter Triple — RACK 1

A1 I1 O1 X8 T1 R1 H4 — RACK 2

E1 O1 U1 R1 S1 N1 V4 — RACK 3

A1 I1 O1 Y4 D2 M3 L1 — Double Word Score — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 155-165
BEST SCORE 221

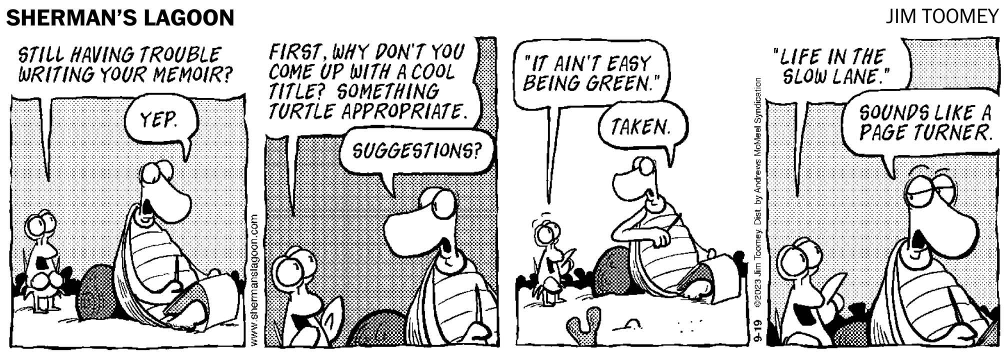
FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

09-19

SHERMAN'S LAGOON
JIM TOOMEY



CURTIS
RAY BILLINGSLEY



JUMBLE CROSSWORDS
by David L. Hoyt

9-19-23



ACROSS CLUE	ANSWER
1. Breathe in	HAELNI
5. Floor ____	SIJTO
6. ____, Australia	RTPHE
7. Fisherman	NGLERA

DOWN CLUE	ANSWER
1. Wound	NYIJRU
2. ____ turn	HIANIRP
3. Sideways	LTRLAEA
4. May honoree	ERHMTO

How to play: Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

BONUS

CLUE: Construction on the ____ ____ began in 1631.

ANSWERS: 1A-Inhale 5A-Joist 6A-Perth 7A-Angler 1D-Injury 2D-Hairpin 3D-Lateral 4D-Mother B-Taj Mahal

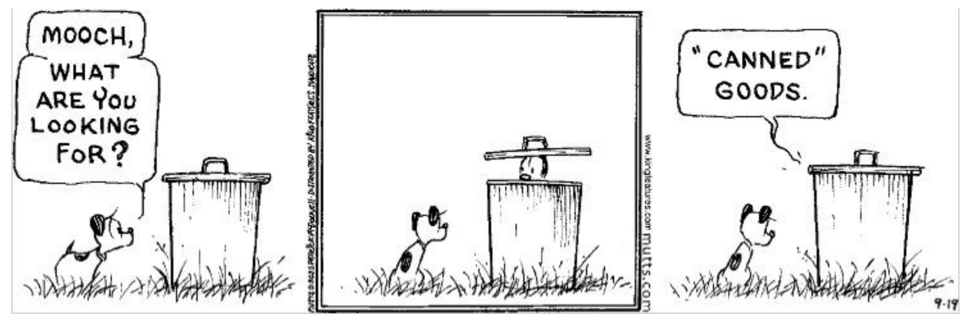
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Send comments to TCA - 560 W. Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60654 or DLHoyt@HoytInteractiveMedia.com

BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!
TIM RICKARD



MUTTS
PATRICK McDONNELL



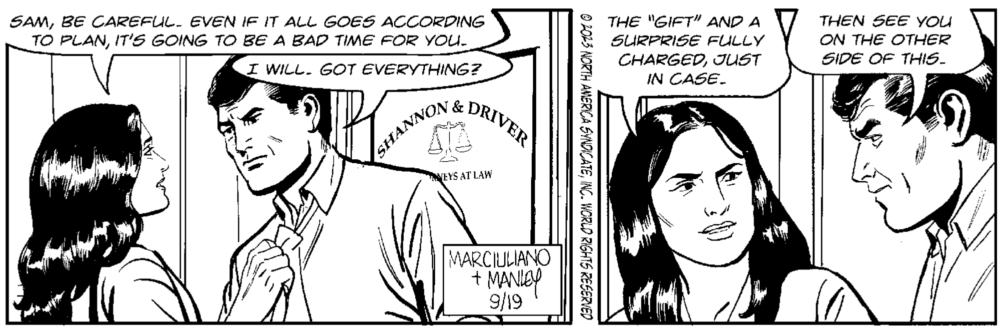
ZITS
JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN



HEART OF THE CITY
STEENZ



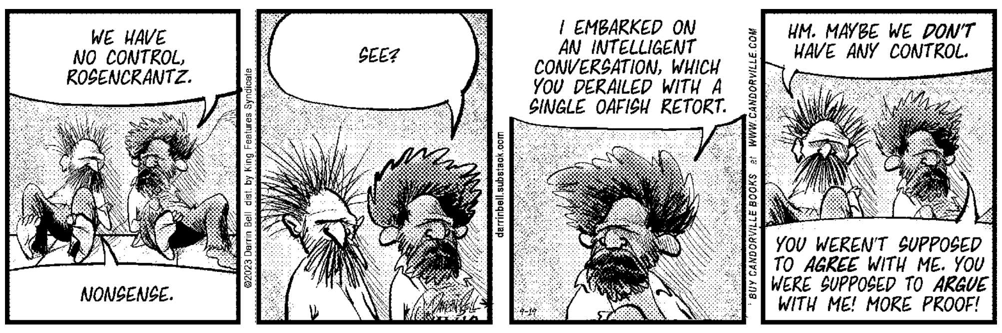
JUDGE PARKER
FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY



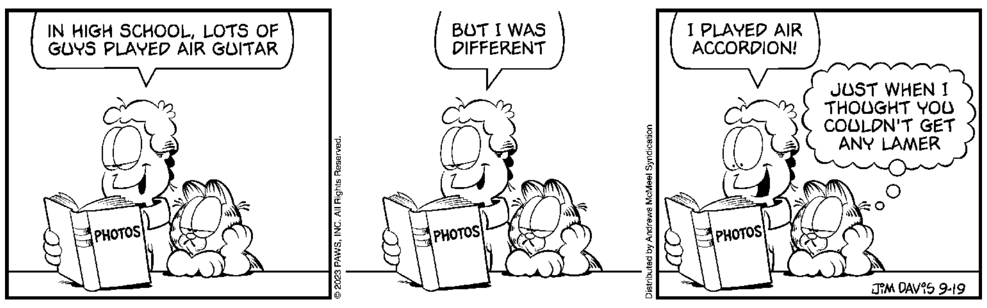
FRAZZ
JEF MALLETT



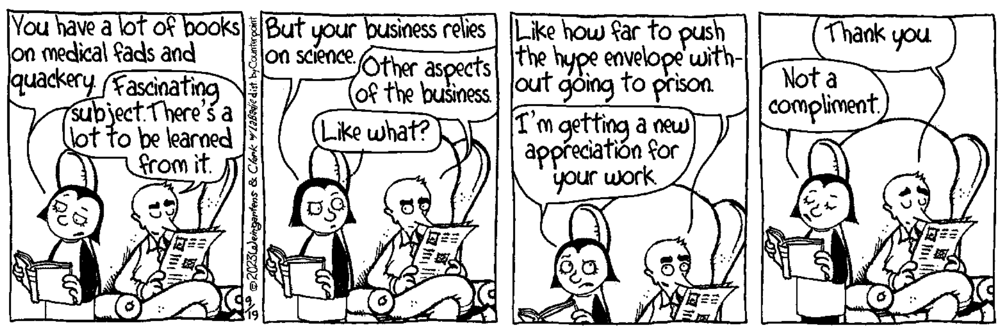
CANDORVILLE
DARRIN BELL



GARFIELD
JIM DAVIS



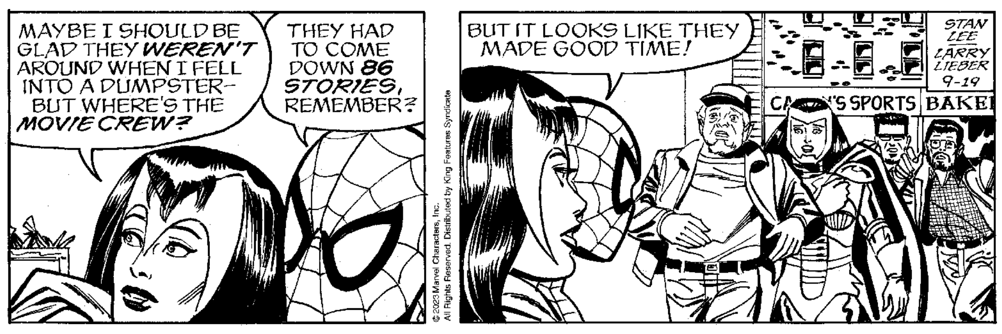
BARNEY AND CLYDE
WEINGARTENS & CLARK



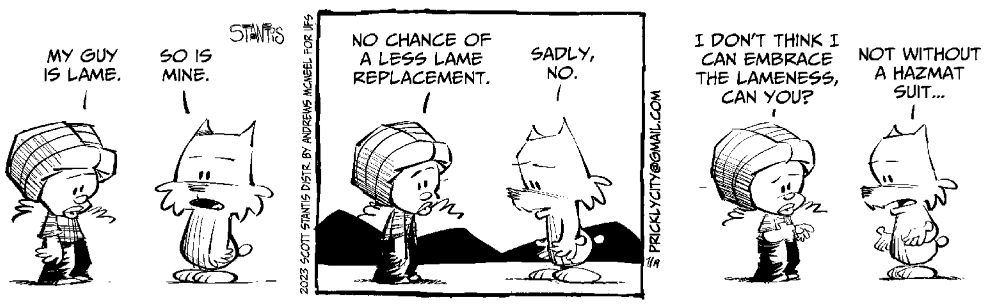
DUSTIN
STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
STAN LEE & ALEX SAVIUK



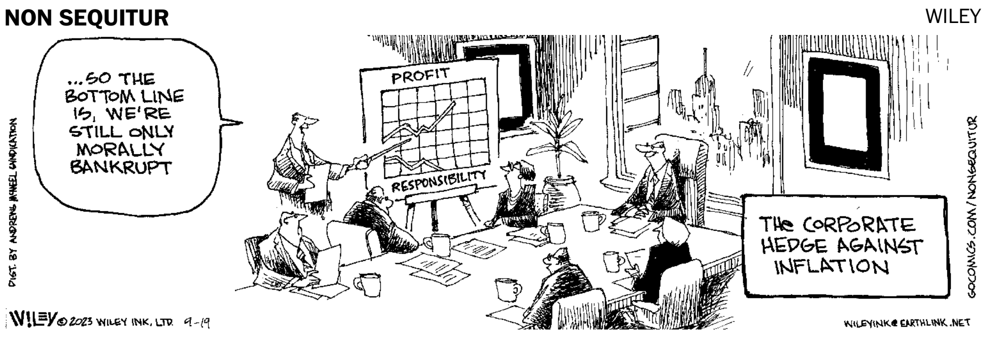
PRICKLY CITY
SCOTT STANTIS



LOOSE PARTS
DAVE BLAZEK



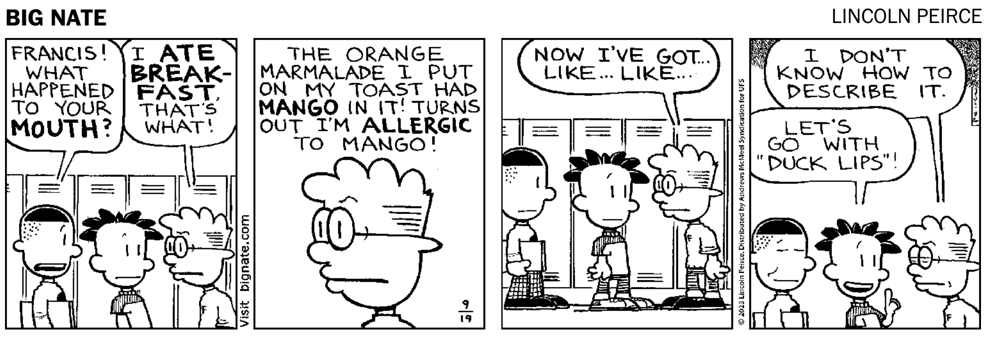
NON SEQUITUR
WILEY



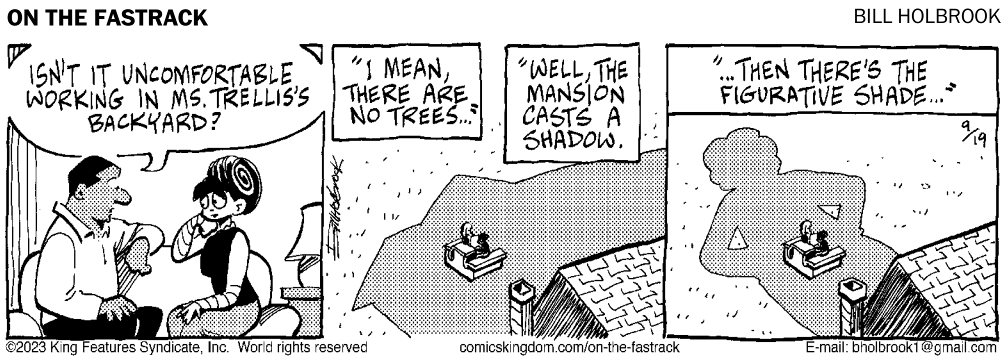
BABY BLUES
RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



BIG NATE
LINCOLN PEIRCE



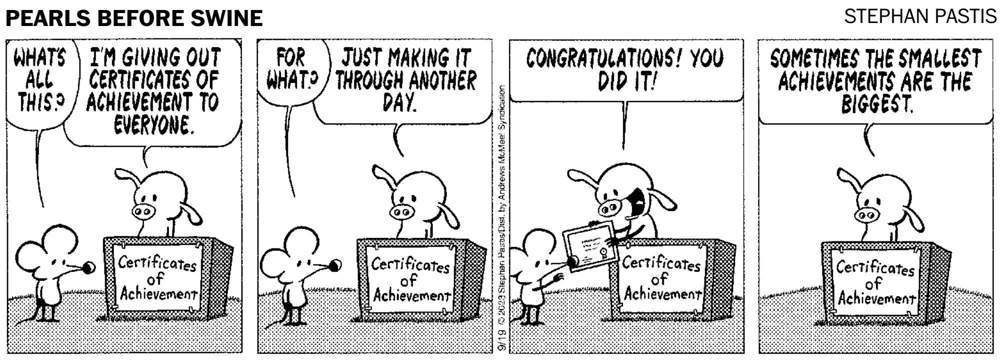
ON THE FASTRACK
BILL HOLBROOK



BEETLE BAILEY
GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE
STEPHAN PASTIS



HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | SEPTEMBER 19

You are positive thinking, practical and down to earth. You care about appearances and make an effort. This year is highly successful for you. It's your chance to reap the rewards of your past efforts. Expect a promotion, an award, kudos, acknowledgment and recognition.

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Scorpio.

ARIES
(MARCH 21-APRIL 19).
Double-check details given to you by co-workers or other sources related to your work today. Likewise, be extra careful with the details related to your health, because both these areas are subject to confusion, deception and carelessness.

TAURUS
(APRIL 20-MAY 20).
Parents should be very clear about where their kids are and what they're doing today, because children could be harmed by poisons, bad food or chemicals. Meanwhile, romantic disappointment is possible, especially related to unexpressed expectations.

GEMINI
(MAY 21-JUNE 20).
Double-check all information going back and forth between parents and family members, especially related to the government or outside information.

CANCER
(JUNE 21-JULY 22).
This is a tricky day. Make no assumptions about anything, and if you think something fishy is going on, it is. You might spend time daydreaming today or being lost in a fantasy world.

LEO
(JULY 23-AUG. 22).
This is the classic day for financial confusion. This could be due to the spread of misinformation or simply genuine errors. However, it is also possible that some people are dishonest or deceiving you about your belongings, your earnings or what is due to you.

VIRGO
(AUG. 23-SEPT. 22).
Today fuzzy Neptune directly opposes the Sun in your sign, which saps the energy of people and also creates confusion. It's as if you have Vaseline on your lens. Knowing this, be careful about agreeing to anything.

LIBRA
(SEPT. 23-OCT. 22).
Double-check matters at work today, as well as anything related to your health (or even your pet). The possibility of confusion and errors is very strong today. Most likely, the confusion is due to miscommunications or misunderstandings.

SCORPIO
(OCT. 23-NOV. 21).
This is a challenging day for romance, which means many couples will suffer from disappointments or misunderstandings. Similarly, parents might have misunderstandings with their kids.

SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 22-DEC. 21).
Be clear in all your communications with bosses, parents, teachers, VIPs and the police today. There's a strong possibility of misunderstandings or misinterpretations caused by silly errors or, possibly, by intentional deceit.

CAPRICORN
(DEC. 22-JAN. 19).
Don't fall for propaganda or fancy words today, which will be easy to do because a lot of information that is floating around is confusing or misrepresented.

AQUARIUS
(JAN. 20-FEB. 18).
Avoid making important financial decisions today, especially about shared property, estates, inheritances, taxes or debt. You might not have all the facts, or perhaps, the facts that you have are not correct.

PISCES
(FEB. 19-MARCH 20).
This is the classic day for misunderstandings between partners, spouses and old friends. Therefore, assume nothing. Do not assume someone might try to lead you astray.

— Georgia Nicols

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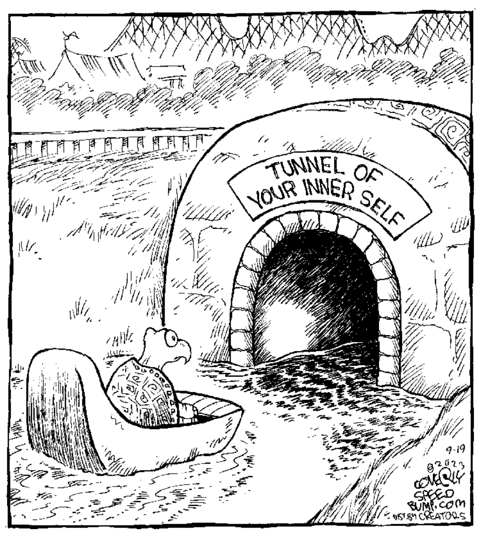
PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

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9	6	8	1	4	3	2	5	7
1	2	7	5	8	9	3	6	4
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PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

H_4	I_1	P_3	P_3	E_1	S_1	T_1	RACK 1 =	64
F_4	I_1	E_1	F_4	D_2	O_1	M_3	RACK 2 =	66
H_4	Y_4	P_3	H_4	E_1	N_1		RACK 3 =	51
E_1	C_3	O_1	N_1	O_1	M_3	Y_4	RACK 4 =	67
PAR SCORE 190-200							TOTAL	248

SPEED BUMP
DAVE COVERLY

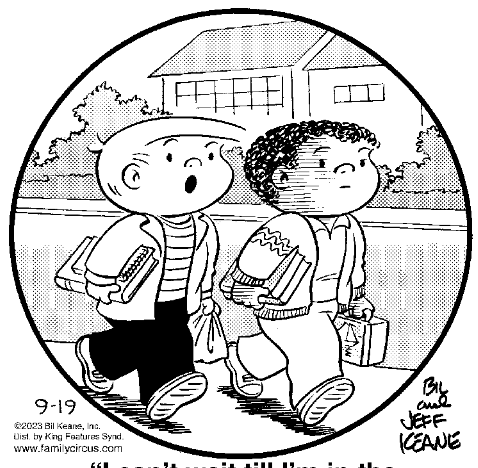


DENNIS THE MENACE
H. KETCHAM



"I THINK THIS REALITY SHOW IS MAKING OUR SMART TV DUMB."

FAMILY CIRCUS
BIL KEANE



"I can't wait till I'm in the eighth grade and know all there is to know."

REPLY ALL LITE
DONNA A. LEWIS



Unraveling of Wenner no shock to biographer



ILLUSTRATION BY MARÍA ALCONADA BROOKS/THE WASHINGTON POST; LARRY BUSACCA/GETTY IMAGES FOR AARP; ISTOCK

WENNER FROM C1

his statements as reported do not represent my beliefs, or the values, practices, and mission of Rolling Stone."

In the Times interview, published Friday, Jann Wenner seemed to dismiss female and Black artists, musing that they were not among the great "philosophers of rock" and reserving that platitude for the seven White male artists he interviewed in a new book.

In comments that drew slightly less attention, Wenner also asserted that an infamous 2014 Rolling Stone article — which was retracted after it was determined that the purported college gang rape at the center of the story never happened — was otherwise factually "bulletproof," despite a multimillion-dollar defamation judgment against it.

Among the least surprised by the comments — for which Wenner later said he apologized "wholeheartedly" — was biographer Joe Hagan, author of 2017's acclaimed "Sticky Fingers: The Life and Times of Jann Wenner and Rolling Stone Magazine."

"The thing about Jann, the thing that made him successful but also is his Achilles' heel, is that he's a narcissist who lacks self-awareness," said Hagan, a writer for Vanity Fair, in an interview. "This is how he talks inside the bubble he lives in. He receives a lot of affirmation for it, and he thinks it's okay."

Hagan compared Wenner's mind-set, if not his politics, to Donald Trump's, another 77-year baby boomer known to speak without much regard for accuracy or self-reflection.

Wenner no longer runs Rolling Stone, which was acquired by Penske Media Corporation in a series of transactions between 2017 and 2019.

Yet the reaction to Wenner's comments crystallized criticisms that have periodically swirled around him and the magazine for decades. Rolling Stone long promoted rock's male superstars — and personal Wenner favorites — such as Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen and Mick Jagger over newer artists and genres such as grunge, metal, R&B and hip-hop.

Bono and U2, for example, appeared on Rolling Stone's cover 24 times between 1985 and 2018, or once every 16½ months, though not at all since Wenner stepped down as editorial director in 2019. Critics suggested the reason was twofold: Wenner favored his friends and knew who sold magazines.

The notion that Rolling Stone tended to give more favorable reviews to artists whose record companies bought ads in the magazine was highlighted in 1996, when Wenner spiked a negative review of the latest Hootie & the Blowfish album and subbed in a more favorable one. A reporter for the New York Observer asked Jim DeRogatis, the writer of the spiked review, whether Wenner was a fan of the band. DeRogatis responded that Wenner "is a fan of any band that sells 8 million records."

Wenner fired him the day the comment was published.

During its 1970s heyday, the magazine developed a "boys' club" reputation, with just one female writer on its masthead — Robin Green, who stayed only three years before becoming a TV writer and later wrote a memoir of her time there, titled "The Only Girl." Rock critic Ellen Willis refused to write for Rolling Stone, telling Wenner's co-founding editor that the magazine "habitually refers to women as chicks and treats us as chicks."

There's no denying Wenner's achievements as a businessman and a media visionary. After dropping out of the University of California at Berkeley, he started Rolling Stone in 1967 alongside his mentor, San Francisco Chronicle jazz critic Ralph Gleason, with a $7,500 loan from his in-laws. The magazine struggled until Wenner landed an interview in 1970 with one of his idols, John Lennon — one of Rolling Stone's first cover subjects — that helped propel Rolling Stone to national prominence, and eventually to prosperity. Wenner shaped its coverage of music, politics and popular culture, investing it with a youthful zeal and counterculture attitude. His timing was spectacular: Rolling Stone hit its stride just as its boomer audience was settling into careers and consumerism.

The magazine's feature reporting helped spark a stylish and subjective subgenre known as New Journalism: the drug-addled ramblings of "gonzo" journalist Hunter S. Thompson; the political reporting of Timothy Crouse ("The Boys on the Bus"); and later the acerbic travelogues of P.J. O'Rourke. Wenner launched the career of filmmaker Cameron Crowe (whose "Almost Famous" fictionalized his stint as a teenage rock journalist); encouraged Tom Wolfe's transformation to best-selling novelist by serializing his debut effort, "The Bonfire of the Vanities"; and gave a young photographer named Annie Leibovitz her start shooting celebrities.

At his entrepreneurial peak in the 1990s, Wenner was the master of a mini-magazine empire consisting of Rolling Stone, Men's Journal and Us Weekly.

But Hagan said Wenner's comment about Rolling Stone's 2014 story about the University of Virginia was particularly telling. "His ego won't let him believe that he's done anything wrong," he said.

"A Rape on Campus" was easily one of the most notorious journalistic faceplants of the past quarter-century. The central event in the story — a young woman's description of a horrific sexual assault by seven men at a fraternity on campus — turned out to be unsupported by any evidence. As revealed shortly after the article's publication, writer Sabrina Rubin Erdely and her editors at Rolling Stone never contacted any of the fraternity brothers accused by a woman identified only as "Jackie." The magazine's journalists also never interviewed a group of friends the article described as indifferent to Jackie's distress immediately after she told them about the alleged assault.

A post-mortem review by a Columbia journalism school panel in 2015 authorized by Wenner and Rolling Stone concluded that the magazine published the story despite the lack of corroboration for Jackie's account.

"The Rolling Stone article was far from 'bulletproof,'" Sheila Coronel, who led the Columbia investigation, told The Post this week. "As our investigation found, the story suffered from failures in reporting, editing, editorial supervision, and fact-checking. The error could have been avoided at various points of the process, including at the point when the author failed to fully get the side of the fraternity where the alleged assault was supposed to have taken place."

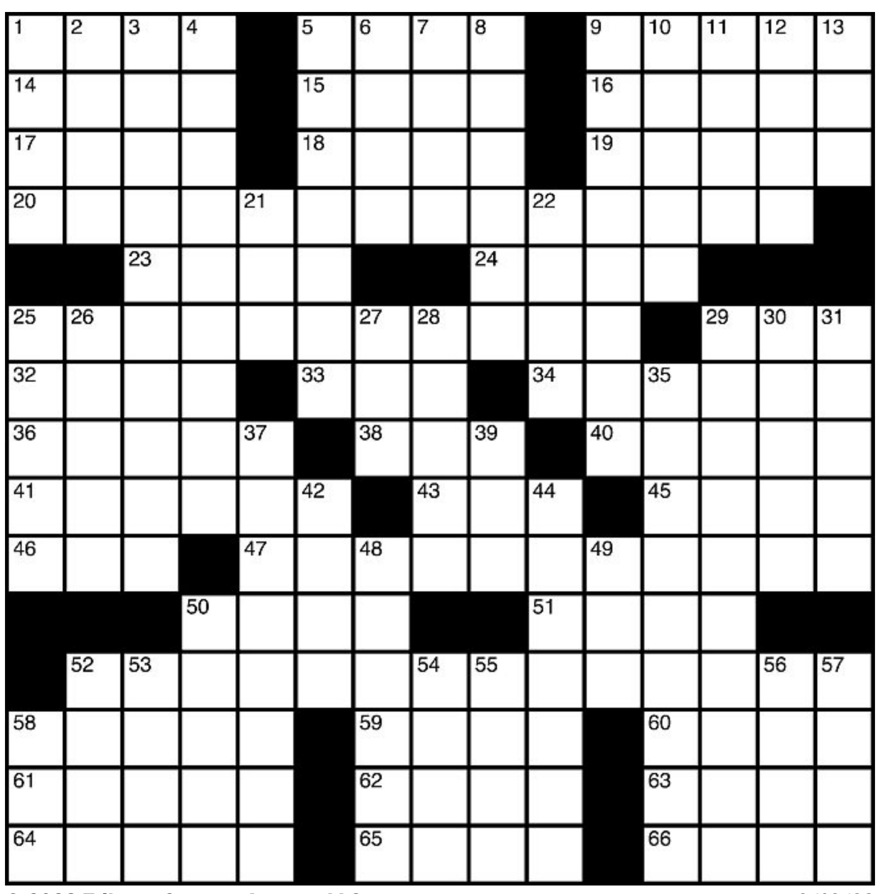
An associate U-Va. dean, Nicole Eramo, sued the magazine and Erdely, claiming the article "falsely attributed" statements to her, such as that she had called university "the rape school." Eramo won a $3 million jury verdict, but later settled for an undisclosed amount after Rolling Stone moved to appeal. The magazine also settled lawsuits from fraternity members.

Despite the rebuke over his comments, Wenner's legacy is secure, said Samir Husni, the founder of the Magazine Innovation Center at the University of Mississippi.

"Rolling Stone is much bigger and more important than Jann Wenner," Husni said on Monday, comparing the publication to Ms. magazine and Playboy for its cultural impact. "No one outside of media circles know who Jann Wenner is. But they know what Rolling Stone is."

LA TIMES CROSSWORD

By Zach Moore



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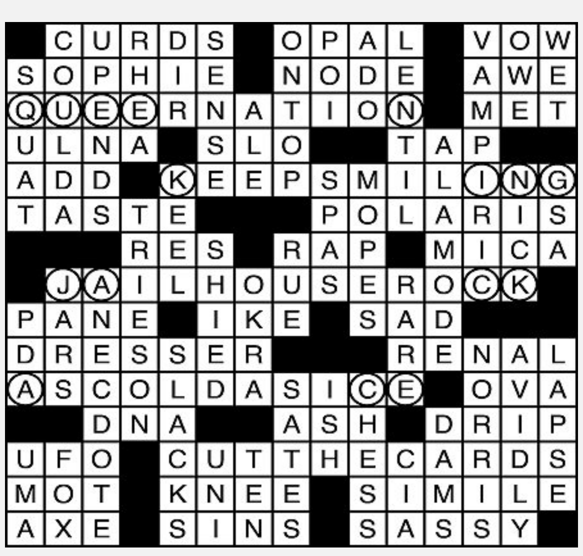
ACROSS

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14 Top-ranked
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16 Strung along
17 Civil rights icon Parks
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20 Ability to keep cool under pressure
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29 Org. whose annual awards are presented at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena
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33 Male pal
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36 Sought-after guests
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41 Laughs at the joke, say
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63 Kept in the email loop
64 Build up
65 "__ on the roof / And kicked off the moss": lyrics in Elton John's "Your Song"
66 Squeezes (out)

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37 Makes less loose, as screws
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49 "The Raven" poet's monogram
50 Homes in Havana
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54 Tints
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56 Drink brand with a polar bear in its logo
57 "Bill & __ Excellent Adventure"
58 Govt. property overseer

MONDAY'S LA TIMES SOLUTION





NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Sister won't do more for aging mom



Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

Dear Carolyn: As the long-distance daughter to an elderly, widowed mother with health needs, I have to navigate a tricky relationship with my sister who lives locally. Sister beat breast cancer and looks at our mother's every health issue through the lens of, "This is nothing compared with what I went through." Plus, this sister has her hands full with special-needs kids. So the slightest suggestion I make that she help out our mother is met with a combo of spite and righteous indignation, because how dare I when I live far away and when her plate is overflowing.

Our mother is fearful to burden my sister with anything, yet piles on the guilt to me that she has to go to medical procedures all alone. I get this is a sandwich generation issue, but it's also a sibling issue that I can't tackle.

— Powerless Long-Distance Daughter

Powerless Long-Distance Daughter: "Powerless"? No. You can tackle it: Make not even the "slightest suggestion" that "she help out our mother." Ever.

When a cancer survivor with special-needs children at home is the only one local to a sick, elderly, widowed mom, *nobody* gets to step in to tell her she needs to do more. Especially not the person who lives out of reach of all the most soul-sucking work.

If you have the means, then offer money toward your mother's care — for a home health aide, a visiting nurse, a housekeeper, a meal delivery service. Or pick up the chores you can do remotely, such as ordering groceries for delivery or managing insurance and prescriptions. Even a nominal contribution is a show of good faith, much more so than resigning yourself to helplessness beyond telling your sib what to do.

Your mom, by the way, is the one stirring this pot, and it's totally inappropriate. Your sister is. not. an option. Exactly as you are not an option. Treating your geography obstacle as, "Oops, gee, can't," then treating Sis's responsibility-saturation obstacle as, "Oh, what's one more little thing?" is why families implode over elder care.

Treat the two obstacles the same. And respond to Mom's complaints accordingly and plainly: that daughters driving her to appointments is. not. an option. Then say you and she (Mom) need to brainstorm a Plan B. Is it time for a home aide, a medical chaperone, an informal network of friends? If she resists, then kindly/firmly/no-BSly remind her that the alternative is not the sister; the alternative is the status quo, where she manages these things by herself. Is she okay with that, then? If not, then back to the options carousel. Disliking the options is not to be mistaken for actually having different ones.

Readers' thoughts:

• My siblings have Dad conference-call us into his doctors' appointments — preferably by video. At least we can hear the docs and say things like, "Hey, Dad, remember last week you told us X?"

• Fully agree that it's a terrible idea to make helpy suggestions that add to Sister's list. One thing you can do from afar is reach out to the local council on aging and discover what services might be available for Mom. Then, with Mom's buy-in, line them up and be the main contact.

• You can tackle it. You just don't want to. There are plenty of things you can do that don't involve your sister. For some reason, you and your mom want to stick your sister with these responsibilities.

Write to Carolyn Hax at *tellme@washpost.com*. Get her column delivered to your inbox each morning at *wapo.st/gethax*.

Join the discussion live at noon Fridays at *washingtonpost.com/live-chats*.

The Washington Post
SPORTS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023
M2
D

SOCCER
As controversy roils the Spanish soccer federation, the UEFA chief calls prosecuting its former head "illogical." D2

HIGH SCHOOLS
At Springbrook, a Native American athlete has turned to running to help cope with loss — and help his team. D3

PRO FOOTBALL
On a Monday night twin-bill, the Steelers rally past the Browns, and the Saints are too much for the Panthers. D4

Adon has a teachable moment in Nats' loss

WHITE SOX 6, NATIONALS 1

BY JESSE DOUGHERTY

Twice on Monday night, Joan Adon got to two strikes against Luis Robert Jr. and finished him, a detail that felt briefly relevant and then not at all critical in the Washington Nationals' 6-1 loss to the Chicago White Sox.

Mike Clevinger's complete game certainly stuck out more. So, too, did the benches-clearing dust-up after Dominic Smith took Clevinger deep with two outs in the ninth and watched the solo shot for a few steps before flipping his bat. Smith and Clevinger never got within 60 feet of each other. Smith, though, turned toward Clevinger the moment he touched home plate, forcing catcher Yasmani Grandal to step between them. Clevinger appeared to be pointing at the scoreboard. He then struck out Carter Kieboom to cap the Nationals' sixth loss in seven games.

"I wasn't upset. I was just trying to figure out what he was saying," Smith said. "I touched third, and he was saying something. I touched home, and he was still saying something. I was like, 'What are you saying?' That's all."

And did he get any clarity?

"I think the camera . . . it was a couple explicits," Smith said. "So whatever y'all pick up on that, that's what it was."

Anyway, Robert strikes out a lot, making two strikeouts in three innings seem like not too big a feat for Adon. But Robert has also been one best power hitters in the majors this season, the sort of player who provides a tough-yet-fair measuring stick for a 25-year-old starter. In their first meeting, Adon and the outfielder battled for eight pitches before Adon beat him with a low-and-in change-up. In their second matchup, Adon needed just three pitches for a strikeout, ending the at-bat with a high fastball that hummed past Robert's bat at 96 mph.

That capped the top of the third, leaving Adon with a little bounce in his step on the way back to the dugout. He had earned it. But in the fifth, after Adon yielded a single and a walk with two down, Robert rocked a

SEE NATIONALS ON D6

White Sox at Nationals
Today, 7 p.m., MASN2



DAVID DOW/NBA ENTERTAINMENT/GETTY IMAGES

Natasha Cloud, who called the Mystics' Game 1 defense "lazy," plans to match up one-on-one with Sabrina Ionescu in Game 2.

Pressure points

One loss from elimination, the Mystics are looking for a sense of urgency

BY KAREEM COPELAND

NEW YORK — Elena Delle Donne viewed the question as absurd last week. The Washington Mystics' star was asked whether there were any 11th-hour pieces of inspiration for the team before its playoff opener against the New York Liberty. Delle Donne all but dismissed the notion.

"If you have to say something to get people ready for playoffs, you've got a big problem," Delle Donne said. "If you need someone to pump you up for this moment, you've got a big issue."

But in the wake of Friday's 90-75 Liberty win that left the Mystics one game from elimination in the best-of-three series, the conversation has centered precisely on effort — and the Mystics' lack thereof in Game 1. Guard Brittney Sykes cited it outside the team's Barclays Center locker room. Coach Eric Thibault looked at the stat sheet and mentioned getting beat on 50-50 balls and outrebounded during the second and third quarters (after Washington sprinted out to an early lead) and was critical of his team's defense when New York screened out higher on the floor.

"To me, that is effort," Thibault said. "It's, 'I've got to sprint back, *and* I've got to turn and be ready to guard the ball.' But part of it is: 'The ball changes hands, I don't have six to seven seconds to get ready to defend. I've got to be urgent and ready right off the bat.'

"It's probably mental effort as much as physical."

Delle Donne disagreed.

SEE MYSTICS ON D7

Game 2: Mystics at Liberty | Today, 7 p.m., ESPN (New York leads best-of-three series, 1-0)

Mich. State intends to fire Tucker with cause

Move over sex allegation could cost football coach $80 million left on deal

BY CHUCK CULPEPPER

The long, varied and successful coaching career of Mel Tucker, which reached a peak in November 2021 when he signed a 10-year contract extension that rocked the college football marketplace with its $95 million figure, hit a nadir Monday. Michigan State announced it notified Tucker of its intent to terminate that contract with cause after a sexual harassment charge against him surfaced publicly Sept. 10.

In a statement provided Monday afternoon, Athletic Director Alan Haller said: "I, with the support of the administration and board, have provided Mel Tucker with written notice of intent to terminate his contract for cause. This notification process is required as part of his existing contract. The notice provides Tucker with seven calendar days to respond and present reasons to me and the interim president as to why he should not be terminated for cause. This action does not conclude the ongoing Office for Civil Rights case; that rigorous process will continue."

That contract, so bold at its time of signature, included a statement that termination could occur if Tucker, 51, "engages in any conduct which constitutes moral turpitude or which, in the university's sole judgment, would tend to bring public disrespect, contempt or ridicule upon the university." That statement figured to undergo intricate scrutiny beginning two weekends ago, when USA Today reported on a nine-month-old complaint from Brenda Tracy, a 49-year-old rape survivor and well-known counselor to football programs about sexual assault, and an ongoing university investigation. It will figure to undergo further study should Tucker continue to maintain his innocence and pursue reinstatement or legal action.

That issue of firing "for cause" will determine what Michigan State might owe out of the remaining $80 million or so.

Tracy visited and spoke to Michigan State's program in August 2021 and served as an honorary captain for its spring game of

SEE TUCKER ON D4

Washington fans, if you're not familiar, this is hope



Jerry Brewer

Down 21-3, exposed and bumbling, the Washington Commanders faced the first stress test of a new era. So Ron Rivera relied on an intangible that had been beaten out of every coach this franchise has had for nearly a quarter-century: faith.

"The crazy part is we were kind of waiting for something good to happen," he said.

And the crazier part is that something good actually did.

On Sunday, it was linebacker Jamin Davis forcing a fumble from Denver Broncos quarterback Russell Wilson. Cody Barton recovered it for the Commanders, and it led to Washington's first touchdown during a 35-33 comeback victory. Moving forward, it could ignite a season of resilience to signify an entire franchise attempting to make a dramatic comeback.

It's too soon to announce the

SEE BREWER ON D5

ANALYSIS

For the Commanders, turnover leads to turnaround

BY SAM FORTIER

The Washington Commanders were punch-drunk, about to be knocked out, when linebacker Jamin Davis spotted what he called a "loose loaf of bread." All week, he had studied film of Denver Broncos quarterback Russell Wilson and noticed how, if receivers weren't open right away, he liked to tuck the ball and run. Late in the second quarter, on second and 15 just over midfield, Davis stepped up to defend play action, paused and recognized what was happening. Wilson started to scramble left; Davis shadowed him.

Early in his career, Davis played slow. His brain couldn't unlock his body, the elite athleticism Washington coveted when it drafted him in the first round in 2021. But on Sunday afternoon in Denver, when the Commanders were down big, Davis showed closing speed rare for a 6-foot-4, 234-pound linebacker. And he was extra motivated because earlier he had been flagged for what he considered an unfair roughing-the-passer penalty.

"I was a little [mad]," he said.

SEE COMMANDERS ON D5

Bills at Commanders
Sunday, 1 p.m., WUSA-9



JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

Washington's Jamin Davis punched the ball out of the hands of Denver quarterback Russell Wilson.

Dallas defense is a wrecking crew led by wrecking ball

On the NFL
ADAM KILGORE

The second Sunday of the NFL season provided all the best and all the worst that football can offer. The offensive malaise that hung over Week 1 disappeared, two games advanced to overtime, Russell Wilson heaved a Hail Mary, the New England Patriots were nearly saved by a twirling, lunging guard, and we got to say "Puka Nacua" a whole bunch. Amid the fun, promising rookie quarterback Anthony Richardson suffered a concussion, Odell Beckham Jr. had to leave the Baltimore Ravens' victory with an ankle injury, and Saquon Barkley slammed his helmet after getting hurt late in the New York Giants' rally in Arizona. Injuries remain the worst, and here is what to know.

Micah Parsons might take over the NFL. For years, Aaron Donald has worn the title of the NFL's most valuable non-quarterback. Parsons is in the

SEE ON THE NFL ON D4

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

St. John's is carried by a loaded backfield

FROM STAFF REPORTS

St. John's — or almost any high school football team in the country for that matter — would have been just fine tabbing Da'Jaun Riggs, a three-star Oregon commit, to be its bell-cow running back.

"He's a Swiss Army knife," fellow senior Cinque Blount said. "His ability to make people miss is unmatched. His explosiveness is unmatched. His finishing ability is crazy. It's a dream to run next to him."

But stopping there would have sold Blount — a 5-foot-11, 215-pound, pass-catching, run-blocking, faster-than-you-think running back — well short. "His go-to move is to run through somebody's face," Riggs said.

With sophomore running back Breyon Williams joining the mix — "He's got like this Derrick Henry stiff arm," Riggs said — the Cadets have discovered a world of possibilities.

"It's like thunder, then lightning, then thunder again," St. John's Coach Pat Ward.

The trio's versatility has made the No. 4 Cadets, who are 2-1 after Saturday's 42-28 win over Gray Collegiate (S.C.), a threat to three-peat in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference. It also has let offensive coordinator Antwon Bailey get creative.

Occasionally, all three of the "sparks" — the Cadets have dubbed the position as a mix of running back, slot receiver and occasional quarterback — see the field simultaneously. They also run behind one of the area's fiercest offensive lines, to which Riggs brings doughnuts as a sign of gratitude.

"I don't feel like teams are ready for what we can bring for a whole game," Blount said. "We can rotate guys, and nobody's going to be gassed. . . . Running alongside them is a dream."

— Spencer Nusbaum

Blake happy to get physical

For the first time in program history, Blake is 3-0. The Silver Spring school, which opened in 1998, has been edging toward this kind of success for some time and flirted with the upper levels of the Montgomery County hierarchy last fall with an 8-4 campaign.

But it took an experienced, physical group to set the mark this year as the Bengals earned comfortable wins over Whitman, Kennedy and Einstein. Coach Bryon Marshall, in his second year at the helm, has watched the weaknesses of last season evolve into strengths.

"We're both experienced and young because last year we had a bunch of sophomores out there playing. I think that's a great combination to have," Marshall said.

He is proudest of his team's physicality, in part because it's a trait that's hard to teach. Marshall believes in the idea that it is bred by confidence: If you know where you are and what you're supposed to be doing on the field, you are more likely to play with physicality.

"You become more aggressive when you know that you're doing your job," Marshall said.

An example of this theory is junior running back Jeremiah Seaton, a punishing and skilled playmaker. On Thursday night, Seaton terrorized the Titans, finishing with 27 carries for 222 yards and three touchdowns. He became the program's all-time leader with 23 touchdowns.

"A lot of the success so far comes down to us playing as a team and working to build those team bonds," Seaton said.

Blake will get a true road test when it travels to Sherwood on Friday night. Last fall, the Warriors beat the Bengals on a miraculous, last-second touchdown.

"We want to come out and play our game from the start," Seaton said. "We're looking to play another physical game."

— Michael Errigo

Riverside wins in many ways

Riverside has experienced the thrill of victory in many ways early this season. The Rams have a blowout, a double-overtime thriller, a one-point victory courtesy of a game-winning touchdown run and a come-from-behind win — all in the span of a month.

The Rams have emerged unscathed — one of the few unbeaten teams remaining in Loudoun County. For Coach Ernie Porter, the experience in late-game scenarios has been valuable.

"We've had some close games from different scenarios, and I think it'll help us later down the road," Porter said. "Now the kids believe that they can come back, and so they've definitely got that confidence."

That confidence wasn't always a part of the Riverside program earlier in Porter's tenure. The Rams finished 2-8 last season, often falling into early holes; Porter said the team would then stop fighting.

This year, the Rams have brought the fight late — which bodes well for a team with visions of a state playoff berth and at least a seven-win season. Porter watched from the sideline as the Rams crawled back to beat Broad Run with seconds left on the clock and emerged victorious over a tough Heritage team in extra time.

"This year, our kids are really believing," Porter said. "It's huge. It's a big difference from the last couple years because they believe they can play with anyone."

— Noah Ferguson

Suitland at home on road

On track for its best season since 2019, Suitland is doing it without home-field advantage.

As their campus is being rebuilt, the Rams (3-0) hop on buses every afternoon for a 15-minute ride to Forestville's field for practice. The situation has created logistical challenges for team management, including field maintenance and evening lighting. And Suitland has played only away games.

"It's a little frustrating because we know how strong the Suitland community is, so if we had one game [at home], everybody's going to show up," senior linebacker Daniel Atsou said. "But we're actively going out there every single practice, every single day. We just want more."

The Rams are no strangers to adversity, but this season they're learning that winning comes with its own battles. Coach Ian Hale knows many of his veteran players aren't used to the pressure that comes with keeping a winning streak alive.

"Some of the challenges are just getting these guys acclimated and accustomed to winning and what comes along with it," Hale said. "[We're working on] guys not getting complacent . . . guys not taking their position or influence for granted."

After its 27-8 win over Oxon Hill on Friday, Suitland appears to be hitting its stride. It will try to remain undefeated at Bladensburg on Friday before finally hosting its first home game Sept. 30 against DuVal.

— Aaron Credeur



JONATHAN NEWTON/THE WASHINGTON POST

St. John's running back Da'Jaun Riggs, center, is a "Swiss Army knife," teammate Cinque Blount said.

THE POST TOP 20

After a major shake-up atop the rankings last week that included a public school's rise to No. 1 for the first time since 2017, the first few spots on the Top 20 remain unchanged. Though Quince Orchard won Friday, it needed a last-minute drive to beat a winless Stone Bridge team that is much better than its record indicates. As such, the Cougars drop two spots in the rankings.

1. Freedom (Woodbridge) (2-0)
After a bye, the Eagles will spend another week at their perch atop the rankings.
Last ranked: 1; **Next:** Friday at Gar-Field, 7 p.m.

2. Good Counsel (2-1)
The Falcons thumped Baltimore's Mount St. Joseph, 38-8, for another solid nonconference win.
LR: 2; **Next:** Friday vs. Stone Bridge, 7 p.m.

3. DeMatha (3-0)
The Stags remain unbeaten following a five-overtime win over Philadelphia power Roman Catholic.
LR: 3; **Next:** Friday vs. Life Christian Academy, 7 p.m.

4. St. John's (2-1)
The Cadets' offense posted its best week yet with a 42-28 win over previously undefeated Gray Collegiate (S.C.)
LR: 5; **Next:** Saturday vs. Mission Viejo (Calif.), 2 p.m.

5. Archbishop Spalding (3-1)
The Cavaliers got back on track with a 31-14 win over MIAA foe McDonogh.
LR: 6; **Next:** Friday vs. Calvert Hall, 7 p.m.

6. Quince Orchard (3-0)
The Cougars narrowly escaped defeat against Stone Bridge; a 39-yard touchdown with 17 seconds remaining saved the day.
LR: 4; **Next:** Friday at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.

7. C.H. Flowers (3-0)
The Jaguars continued to roll with a 48-0 win over Laurel on Friday.
LR: 7; **Next:** Saturday at DuVal, 2 p.m.

8. Madison (4-0)
The Warhawks dispatched previously unbeaten Marshall, 27-7, and move to 4-0 for the third time in the past 10 years.
LR: 8; **Next:** Friday at Chantilly, 7 p.m.

9. Friendship Collegiate (3-1)
With a slew of tough games ahead, the Knights took care of business against Coolidge.
LR: 10; **Next:** Friday at H.D. Woodson, 6 p.m.

10. Northwest (3-0)
The Jaguars have outscored opponents 146-43 through their first three games.
LR: 11; **Next:** Friday at Seneca Valley, 6:30 p.m.

11. Wise (2-1)
The Pumas posted their first shutout of the season with a road win over Parkdale.
LR: 12; **Next:** Friday vs. Oxon Hill, 7 p.m.

12. Gonzaga (3-1)
Loyola Blakefield dealt the Eagles their first loss of the fall.
LR: 9; **Next:** Friday vs. Belen Jesuit (Fla.), 7 p.m.

13. North Point (3-0)
A staunch Eagles defense has yet to allow a point this season.
LR: 13; **Next:** Friday vs. Chopticon, 7 p.m.

14. Episcopal (1-0)
Coming off a bye week, the Maroon will face Trinity Episcopal, which got the upper hand last fall.
LR: 14; **Next:** Saturday vs. Trinity Episcopal, 2 p.m.

15. Battlefield (4-0)
The Bobcats are averaging 53.3 points per contest.
LR: 15; **Next:** Friday at Freedom (South Riding), 7 p.m.

16. Bishop McNamara (4-0)
The Mustangs won their second straight one-score game, this time against Moody in Coach Greg Calhoun's home state of Alabama.
LR: 17; **Next:** Friday at Douglass, 4 p.m.

17. Georgetown Prep (3-0)
Senior running back Colin Reynolds scored all four of the Little Hoyas' touchdowns in an overtime victory against Woodberry Forest.
LR: Not ranked; **Next:** Sept. 29 at Riverdale Baptist, 7 p.m.

18. Damascus (2-1)
The Hornets put a loss to Northwest in the rearview with a 27-6 win over Rockville.
LR: 18; **Next:** Friday at Poolesville, 7 p.m.

19. Tuscarora (4-0)
The Huskies bested Lightridge in triple overtime, 23-20.
LR: 19; **Next:** Friday vs. Potomac Falls, Friday, 7 p.m.

20. Briar Woods (4-0)
The Falcons are off to their first 4-0 start since an undefeated state championship season in 2012.
LR: NR; **Next:** Sept. 29 vs. Fort Hill, 7 p.m.

On the bubble: Bullis, Broadneck, Maret, Paint Branch, Sherwood

Dropped out: No. 16 Fairfax, No. 20 H.D. Woodson

Players of the week

Brosnan Dukes, Dunbar: The junior quarterback's passing was on fire all Friday night against Bell, highlighted by an 82-yard touchdown pass, followed by another 50-yard pass to seal a 46-18 win.

Collin Lewis, Chesapeake: Not only did the senior run the ball 18 times for 147 yards and two touchdowns in the Cougars' win over C.M. Wright, but he also scooped up an onside kick and returned it for a touchdown.

Colin Reynolds, Georgetown Prep: The senior running back scored all four touchdowns for the Little Hoyas on Friday night, including the overtime game-winner against Woodberry Forest.

Calum O'Shea, Battlefield: The sophomore quarterback accounted for six touchdowns in the Bobcats' 56-0 romp over Woodbridge.

Games to watch

No. 9 Friendship Collegiate at H.D. Woodson, Friday, 6 p.m.

Blake at Sherwood, Friday, 6:30 p.m.

Calvert Hall at No. 5 Archbishop Spalding, Friday, 7 p.m.

Suitland at Bladensburg, Friday, 7 p.m.

DIGEST

SOCCER

UEFA boss questions Rubiales prosecution

Prosecuting former Spanish soccer federation head **Luis Rubiales** for kissing a World Cup-winning player on the lips without her consent seems "completely illogical," UEFA President **Aleksander Ceferin** suggested.

Spanish state prosecutors are investigating **Jenni Hermoso**'s accusations against Rubiales of sexual assault for the kiss at the Aug. 20 final and coercion for pressuring her to defend him. Rubiales denied both accusations at the closed-door hearing.

Ceferin, who was a criminal defense lawyer before being elected UEFA president in 2016, said in an interview published Sunday in his native Slovenia that "what Rubiales did was inappropriate and not understandable."

"But when I read it was deemed as a felony — as a lawyer, that seems completely illogical," Ceferin told Slovenian outlet N1.

A law passed in Spain last year eliminated the difference between "sexual harassment" and "sexual assault." . . .

Spain's new coach included 15 of the World Cup-winning players on her squad Monday even though they have not announced an end to their boycott of the national team.

Hermoso was not selected. Coach **Montse Tomé** said she talked to Hermoso and decided not to include her as a way to protect her. . . .

An English coach at the center of a notorious child sex abuse scandal in professional soccer died in prison, the British government's justice department said. **Barry Bennell**, who had worked as a scout for Manchester City and a coach at Crewe Alexandra, was serving a 34-year jail term for multiple convictions of offenses committed since the 1970s. He was 69. . . .

Callum Hudson-Odoi marked his first English Premier League appearance in 18 months with a goal to help Nottingham Forest rally for a 1-1 draw at home against Burnley, which earned its first point of the campaign. . . .

Girona earned its fourth straight Spanish league win by beating Granada, 4-2. . . .

Serbia forward **Nemanja Radonjic** scored on either side of halftime as Torino won, 3-0, at Salernitana in Italy's Serie A.

COLLEGES

Baylor settled a years-long federal lawsuit brought by 15 women who alleged they were sexually assaulted at the nation's biggest Baptist school, ending the largest case brought in a wide-ranging scandal that led to the ouster of the university's president and its football coach and tainted the school's reputation.

Notification of the settlement was filed in online court records. The lawsuit was first filed in June 2016. . . .

Four former University of Iowa athletes who faced criminal charges in connection with a state investigation into illegal sports wagering pleaded guilty to underage gambling in agreements reached with prosecutors in Iowa City. . . .

Nebraska lost top running backs **Gabe Ervin Jr.** and **Rahmir Johnson** to season-ending injuries, Coach **Matt Rhule** announced.

Ervin dislocated his shoulder and Johnson dislocated his hip Saturday against Northern Illinois. **Anthony Grant** will move to the top of the depth chart. . . .

Army extended the contract of **Jeff Monken**, who is the second-winningest football coach in school history.

The new contract runs through the 2027 season and averages more than $2 million per year in salary, according to a person with direct knowledge of the deal who spoke to the Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because the school was not disclosing financial terms. . . .

Colorado State football coach **Jay Norvell** said that senior safety **Henry Blackburn** received death threats after his late hit that hospitalized Colorado two-way star **Travis Hunter**. . . .

The SEC gave half-game suspensions to Florida's **Damieon George**, **Micah Mazzccu** and **Dante Zanders** and Tennessee's **Omarr Norman-Lott** for their roles in a fight at the end of their game Saturday. . . .

Bowling Green put hockey coach **Ty Eigner** on administrative leave and three players on interim suspension as it investigates a report of alleged hazing at an off-campus event involving players on the team.

MISC.

Forward **Alysha Clark** was selected as the WNBA sixth player of the year after averaging 6.7 points and 3.4 rebounds for the Las Vegas Aces. . . .

Minnesota selected U.S. forward **Taylor Heise** first in the inaugural Professional Women's Hockey League draft . . .

British qualifier **Harriet Dart** beat Germany's **Jule Niemeier**, 6-3, 6-2, in the first round of the Guangzhou Open as elite women's tennis returned to China after four years. . . .

Chip Ganassi Racing is expanding to five cars for next year's IndyCar season to accommodate 18-year-old developmental driver **Kyffin Simpson**. The expansion for Simpson will give Ganassi three rookies in next year's Indianapolis 500. . . .

Anti-doping regulators are appealing a decision that exonerated world record hurdler **Tobi Amusan** of Nigeria from a violation for missing drug tests that could have cost her a year or more out of the sport. The Athletics Integrity Unit said it filed its appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport last week. . . .

Phil Mickelson won't be betting on football this year, much less the Ryder Cup, saying in a social media post that he previously crossed the line from moderation into addiction and "it wasn't any fun."

— From news services

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB

7 p.m.	**Chicago White Sox at Washington** » MASN2, WJFK (106.7 FM)
7 p.m.	**Philadelphia at Atlanta** » TBS
8 p.m.	**Baltimore at Houston** » MASN, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)

WNBA PLAYOFFS — FIRST ROUND

7 p.m.	**Game 2: Washington at New York** » ESPN
9 p.m.	**Game 2: Atlanta at Dallas** » ESPN

SOCCER

3 p.m.	**UEFA Champions League, Group E: Lazio vs. Atletico** » CBS Sports Network

TENNIS

7:30 a.m.	**WTA: Guangzhou International Women's Open, early rounds** » Tennis Channel
1 p.m.	**WTA: Guadalajara Open, early rounds** » Tennis Channel

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

6 p.m.	**Maryland at Penn State** » Big Ten Network
8 p.m.	**Northwestern at Wisconsin** » Big Ten Network

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

10 p.m.	**Stanford at California** » Pac-12 Network

For Augare-Deal, running is refuge

Missing his people and mourning his grandmother, Native American athlete shines for Springbrook

BY SAM JANE

In Gallup, N.M., it rarely rains. So when booming thunder jolted Uriah Augare-Deal from his sleep on a chilly December night, he knew something was wrong.

The Springbrook High cross-country and track athlete was back home to see his ailing nali, his grandmother. The firewood stove crackled to keep the home warm, and Augare-Deal had been anxious to close his eyes at first but eventually was lulled to sleep by the soft music in his AirPods.

When his father walked through the door into the living room with the bad news, the 6-foot-5 boy crumpled and sobbed. Augare-Deal would be without his anchor. Nali had died.

All he could think was, "This is all my fault." Augare-Deal's grandmother had taken care of him during his parents' divorce. Right when Nali was diagnosed with cancer, Augare-Deal moved away.

Augare-Deal left behind everything he ever knew, including his beloved grandmother.

Soon, his deep-rooted love for running would help him reconcile with his new home in Maryland.

Raised in Gallup, Augare-Deal and his older brother, Kendon, began running as soon as their legs could carry them. With two intercollegiate athletes as parents, the brothers swiftly gained recognition as emerging sports stars in their community.

With limited resources, the school Augare-Deal attended until the seventh grade did not have the funds for an established track or cross-country team, much less sufficient training equipment.

Still, Augare-Deal had people who understood his ethnicity and culture. He felt at home, given his high school's majority Native American population. (Augare-Deal associates with the Navajo Nation and the Amskapi Piikani from the Blackfoot Confederacy.)

When his mother informed him of their impending move to unfamiliar Rockville in 2021 to support her new job in the government, Augare-Deal felt a profound sense of loss.

"I grew so attached to Gallup, it was like I left a part of me back home," he said.

At Springbrook, the brothers would have athletics to fall back on. Both are tall, with legs that are disproportionately long to their torsos, known as runner's legs.

Before they even enrolled in classes at their new high school, Springbrook cross-country coach Gary Frace heard he would have two new talented athletes entering the fold.

Frace likened their acclimation to the team to a knife going through hot butter. However, his perspective was confined to their interactions during practice; he never observed them during the school day.

"They would come home, and I can recall just them saying, 'Oh, my gosh, Mom, there are no Natives, and it's only us,' " said their mother, Rael.

Rael was intentional in her selection of the boys' high school. A strong athletic department, exceptional academics and a diverse student body were high on the mother's list. Springbrook checked all the boxes.

According to U.S. News & World Report, the minority population at Springbrook is 94 percent. In fact, Frace compared his team to the United Nations. Soon enough, Uriah began to fit in.

Still, his time at Springbrook has consisted of challenges.

In class, a teacher discussed the change of the Washington NFL team's name from Redskins. The class was having a debate about the merits of the name when a classmate asked Augare-Deal what he thought about it. Augare-Deal tried to explain it in the simplest way possible: He said being called that slur felt the same to him as how he would imagine a Black student feeling if a White student called him or her a slave.

"I'm pretty sure they never saw a Native American before me and Kendon," Augare-Deal said.

Additionally, he felt the tug of the ties of his previous home. Before his family moved to Maryland, Augare-Deal's grandmother urged them not to leave her. As a consolation, Augare-Deal promised to keep in touch with her frequently. He felt he failed to keep that promise. Then he lost her.

Struggling with his mental health following her death, Augare-Deal did not want to return to Maryland. But after confiding in close family members about his emotions, the then-sophomore turned to the one constant in his life: running.

"I would just run, and that's when I feel like everything fades away for me," Augare-Deal said. "It's just me, myself and my music. Everything disappears when I'm running."

This therapeutic approach led to him becoming one of Springbrook's top runners. In November, Augare-Deal finished with a personal-record time of 17:36 at the Montgomery County cross-country championships. At the Maryland 3A West region track and field championships in the spring, he placed fourth in the high jump.

When the brothers embarked on their runs, Rael would attach eagle feathers to the back of their jerseys. These feathers held significance as symbols of strength and protection. At state meets, fellow athletes would gaze at them, to the extent that Augare-Deal would occasionally check his back to ensure nothing was amiss.

At first, the glances concerned the runner. Now Augare-Deal hopes his feathers are seen by runners at every meet he runs, fading into the distance as his long legs carry him home.







PHOTOS BY JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

TOP LEFT: Uriah Augare-Deal, left, and brother Kendon wear traditional moccasins but not when running. TOP RIGHT: The brothers sport eagle feathers on their jerseys when they are competing. ABOVE: "Everything disappears when I'm running," said Uriah, center.

New York Times shutters sports desk

Staffers march as part of a vigil as the Athletic takes over coverage

BY BEN STRAUSS



YANA PASKOVA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Staff and guild members of the New York Times rallied outside the newspaper's offices to protest the end of the sports department.

Dozens of New York Times sports staffers and guild members marched through the Times offices Monday afternoon to protest the end of the Times's standalone sports desk. They stopped near the main atrium and read the names of some 150 sports staffers past and present, starting with Red Smith, the Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and sportswriting pioneer at the Times.

Staffers called the march a vigil for a desk that was a staple of the newspaper's report for decades. Starting on Tuesday, the Times will rely on the Athletic for the majority of its sports coverage, both in print and online.

The Times announced in July that it would disband the desk, and it has spent the ensuing weeks relocating around 40 sports staffers to different departments around the newsroom. The move has outraged the NewsGuild, the union that represents the Times newsroom, which has accused Times leadership of union-busting. The guild filed a grievance with the newspaper accusing management of replacing union work with nonunion work and last week formally filed paperwork for the case to be heard by an arbitrator.

The Athletic's newsroom of around 400 reporters and editors is not unionized. The Times has said it is contracting with the Athletic, which the company says is not part of the Times newsroom, the same way it does with a wire service such as the Associated Press.

In continued protest of management's decision, staffers protested at the office and rallied outside the Times headquarters, accompanied by a brass band.

"The people who run The Times let our department twist in the wind, either purposely obscuring their plans for the future of sports coverage at Times or spending $550 million on another sports publication without an editorial plan," sports investigative reporter Jenny Vrentas said at the rally. "The way they've chosen to handle this has been unfair to workers at both The Times and The Athletic."

In a tribute to the desk's work over the decades, staffers produced and distributed a farewell sports front page, which included contributions from columnists Dave Vecsey and Harvey Araton.

"This has been a wretched summer for New York teams," Vecsey wrote. "The Yankees stink. The Mets' ownership quit on the team and its fans. And the New York Times is shutting down its sports department."

Vecsey added: "Why garrote the sports section, produced by Times employees, conditioned by Times standards, aimed for literate adults?"

Despite the dissolution of the sports desk, the Times company will continue to cover sports and more robustly than ever. The Times paid $550 million for the Athletic last year and acquired the site's approximately 1 million subscribers. Its efforts to integrate the Athletic into the newsroom have been rocky, with Times staffers bristling at the shuttering of the sports desk and asking questions of management about the Athletic's editorial standards and business model. The Athletic laid off around 20 staffers earlier this year, and it lost nearly $8 million in the most recent quarter, according to Times filings, though revenue is up 50 percent from last year.

Several former Times sports staffers have found new homes at the Athletic.

Longtime baseball writer Tyler Kepner will continue his coverage there; veteran sportswriter and editor Matthew Futterman will lead the site's tennis coverage; and Oskar Garcia will be an editorial director at the Athletic and serve as a liaison between the Athletic and the Times.

A number of other sportswriters have been moved to other desks in the newsroom, where their roles will continue to include some sports coverage. Scott Cacciola, formerly an NBA writer, will move to Styles; longtime sports staffers Andrew Keh and David Waldstein moved to Metro. The Times also has plans to create a new pod to focus on sports business. The pod will exist within the business desk and include Ken Belson, who has covered the NFL, and investigative sports reporters Vrentas and Kevin Draper.



NFL ROUNDUP

Watt lifts Pittsburgh; Chubb hurts knee in loss

STEELERS 26, BROWNS 22

ASSOCIATED PRESS

T.J. Watt scooped up a fumble by DeShaun Watson and ran 17 yards for the go-ahead touchdown midway through the fourth quarter, and the Pittsburgh Steelers beat the visiting Cleveland Browns, 26-22, on Monday night in a game overshadowed by a serious knee injury to Cleveland star running back Nick Chubb.

The Steelers (1-1) beat the Browns (1-1) for the 20th straight time at home in the regular season when outside linebacker Alex Highsmith — who returned an interception for a touchdown on the game's first snap — beat Cleveland left tackle Jedrick Wills Jr. off the edge and chopped the ball out of Watson's hands.

Watt picked it up and raced home as Pittsburgh extended its home winning streak on Monday night to 21 straight dating from 1991. Cleveland allowed an opponent to score two defensive touchdowns for the first time since Pittsburgh did it Oct. 16, 1983.

The Browns played most of the final three quarters without Chubb, who was carted off the field with what appeared to be his second major left knee injury. He suffered a dislocation and three torn ligaments while in college at Georgia.

Chubb took a handoff from Watson early in the second quarter and reached the Pittsburgh 3 when Steelers safety Minkah Fitzpatrick dove at Chubb's legs. The four-time Pro Bowl selection's left leg bent awkwardly underneath him as he rolled over Fitzpatrick, with his knee being pushed one way while the rest of his body went another.

The injury was so disturbing to watch that a replay was shown just once inside the stadium, and ESPN declined to show replays on its telecast. Players on both teams knelt in prayer while Chubb was tended to by medical personnel.

Jerome Ford, Chubb's replacement, ran for 106 yards and caught a three-yard touchdown pass for the Browns, but Cleveland's miscues cost it a chance to win at Pittsburgh in the regular season for the first time since 2003. The Browns beat the host Steelers in the playoffs after the 2020 season.

Watson completed 22 of 40 for 235 yards with a touchdown and an interception. He was also flagged twice for unsportsmanlike conduct for grabbing the face mask of a Steeler while running. The penalties cut a pair of promising drives short.

• **SAINTS 20, PANTHERS 17**: Tony Jones Jr. ran for two touchdowns, rookie Blake Grupe kicked two field goals, and New Orleans beat Carolina in Charlotte, improving to 2-0 for the first time since 2013.

Jones replaced the injured Jamaal Williams late in the first half and ran for 34 yards on 12 carries.

"It was awesome," Saints Coach Dennis Allen said. "He was great. We ran the ball effectively. I think we blocked it up front and he made the right cuts. You know, two touchdowns on the game. It was big for him and big for us."

The Saints' defense did the rest, holding Panthers rookie Bryce Young to 153 yards passing in his home debut. New Orleans limited Carolina (0-2) to 239 yards and sacked Young, the top overall pick in the draft, four times.

The Saints nearly made it two full games without allowing a touchdown before giving up a three-yard scoring toss from Young to Adam Thielen with 1:16 left in the game.

Young's two-point conversion pass to Thielen got the Panthers within three, but the Saints recovered the onside kick and ran out the clock.

Derek Carr, who threw for 305 yards in the Saints' Week 1 win over Tennessee, struggled early. He had a badly underthrown interception into triple coverage and missed several other open receivers in the first half.

Panthers linebacker Shaq Thompson is expected to miss extended time after suffering what Coach Frank Reich said was a "significant" right ankle injury.

NFL NOTES

Mahomes agrees to revised deal with Chiefs

FROM NEWS SERVICES AND STAFF REPORTS

The Kansas City Chiefs and reigning NFL MVP Patrick Mahomes agreed to a restructure of his 10-year, $450 million contract that gives him a substantial raise over the next four seasons, two people familiar with the deal told the Associated Press on Monday.

The people spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the contract.

The revised deal pushes some of the money Mahomes was scheduled to earn going forward to the next four years, and the $210.6 million that will be guaranteed over that span is the most in NFL history. Mahomes will make $56.85 million this year, $44.5 million in 2024, $50 million in 2025 and $56.76 million in 2026.

At that point, the Chiefs and Mahomes — who turned 28 on Sunday — are expected to revisit his contract, which ties him to the franchise through 2031.

• **GIANTS:** Running back Saquon Barkley has a sprained right ankle, and his status for New York's game against the San Francisco 49ers on Thursday is uncertain, a person familiar with the injury told the Associated Press.

Giants Coach Brian Daboll had said earlier in the day he did not know the extent of the injury.

Barkley was injured with 1:08 to play against the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday. The 26-year-old had to be helped to the bench.

• **COLTS:** Rookie quarterback Anthony Richardson will start Week 3 in the concussion protocols after leaving in the first half of Indianapolis's victory at the Houston Texans on Sunday.

Coach Shane Steichen said he didn't have a "definitive answer" when asked how much practice time Richardson could miss this week and still play.

Pro Bowl center Ryan Kelly also is in the protocols, and as with Richardson, his status is uncertain for the time being.

• **CARDINALS:** Arizona put two-time all-pro safety Budda Baker on injured reserve following a hamstring injury suffered last week during practice.

• **DOLPHINS:** Wide receiver Jaylen Waddle is in the concussion protocols after a helmet-to-helmet hit in Miami's win over the New England Patriots on Sunday night.

• **PACKERS:** Left guard Elgton Jenkins said he sprained his medial collateral ligament in Green Bay's loss to the Atlanta Falcons on Sunday, but he added he expects to return later this season.

• **COWBOYS:** Dallas cut running back Ronald Jones on the day he was eligible to rejoin the team after a two-game suspension for violating the NFL's policy on performance-enhancing substances.

— Associated Press

• **MISC.:** The NFL filed a grievance against the NFL Players Association, accusing the union of improperly advising running backs to consider faking or embellishing injuries as a contract-negotiating tactic with their teams.

The grievance, which was filed last week, accuses the NFLPA of violating provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the league and union. It does not accuse any running backs of improper conduct, a person familiar with the situation said.

The NFLPA said in a statement that the grievance is "ridiculous and without merit."

— Mark Maske

ON THE NFL

Cowboys' defense stays dominant; Rams' Nacua is suddenly a star

ON THE NFL FROM D1

process of taking it for himself. Having switched from part-time linebacker to full-time pass-rusher, Parsons has been the best player on a Dallas Cowboys team that has outscored the Giants and Jets by a combined 70-10.

Parsons held the Cowboys' 30-10 victory in his hands. He sacked Zach Wilson twice, recorded another tackle for loss, pressured Wilson on a game-sealing interception, batted down a pass and ripped the ball out of Dalvin Cook's hands for a fumble. He is a lightning bolt, whether rushing off the edge or from over a guard. Wilson didn't offer the same challenge as Aaron Rodgers would have, but he was not a disaster; Parsons would have swallowed any quarterback.

Parsons has made the Cowboys one of the NFL's most impressive teams through two weeks and helped shift the league's balance of power from the AFC; the NFC is 6-0 against the AFC, and six of the NFL's eight 2-0 teams reside in the NFC.

The kick return is fading away. The NFL's offseason rule change to limit kick returns has had the desired effect through two weeks. In Week 1, 78 percent of kickoffs resulted in touchbacks. In Week 2, Indianapolis Colts returner Dallas Flowers set a fitting tone for the week when he called for a fair catch inside his 10-yard line. Only 14 kickoffs were returned in Week 2, with two Monday night games remaining.

In many games, every kickoff resulted in a touchback. But some teams still want to use the kick return as a potential big play; the Seattle Seahawks' DeeJay Dallas returned three kickoffs, and Keisean Nixon of the Green Bay Packers, the reigning all-pro kick returner, returned two, taking one back 30 yards.

The NFL's competition committee changed the kickoff rule to allow a returner to call for a fair catch anywhere inside the 25-yard line and have the ball advanced to the 25. The change has disincentivized returns, which the NFL wants because it has found concussions occur disproportionately on kickoffs. But special teams can still swing a game — Cincinnati Bengals rookie Charlie Jones scored on an 81-yard punt return touchdown.

Teams can work around the rules to their advantage. After the Giants took the lead with 19 seconds left in the fourth quarter Sunday, kicker Graham Gano booted a low, rolling kick to the goal line. Since he couldn't fair-catch it, Greg Dortch had to scoop the ball and return it, burning four seconds the Arizona Cardinals would have rather used for a desperation drive.

Where did Puka Nacua come from? When training camp ended, Nacua was a known commodity among analytically inclined draftniks, late-night college football connoisseurs and Los Angeles Rams superfans. He now owns, without exaggeration, the greatest two-week start to a career of any wide receiver in NFL history.

Nacua, a fifth-round rookie, has caught 25 passes — a record for a player's first two games — for 366 yards, including 15 catches for 147 yards Sunday in the Los Angeles Rams' 30-23 loss to the San Francisco 49ers. The Rams, expected to rank among the worst teams in the NFL, have thrived even with Cooper Kupp on injured reserve. Nacua is the primary reason.

Nacua came out of BYU, where injuries limited him last year to 48 catches for 625 yards. He was always productive when healthy; Pro Football Focus rated him the second-best wide receiver in college football last year. As a draft prospect, his lack of top-end speed (4.57 seconds in the 40-yard dash) and high test scores hurt him.

But Nacua's understanding of coverages has allowed him to click with Matthew Stafford, who has experienced a renaissance. After missing most of last season with back and elbow injuries that threatened to spoil his late career, Stafford is playing like he did at his peak, zipping passes and moving nimbly in the pocket. It helps to have a wide receiver like Nacua.

Nothing is easy for the Patriots. New England has started 0-2 for the first time in 22 years after its 24-17 loss at home to the Miami Dolphins. There is no shame in losing close, grinding games to the Philadelphia Eagles and Dolphins, both of whom are 2-0. But the Patriots' playing style does not offer much hope they can ascend to the league's elite. The defining characteristic of their season is how difficult they make everything look.

The Patriots' receivers create little separation. Their offensive line opens small holes. Mac Jones rarely has comfort in the pocket. Miami's defense under Vic Fangio is designed to take away downfield passes, and the Patriots' longest play Sunday night went for 18 yards. They resorted to moving the ball in small chunks, but eventually most of their drives hit a snag and died, which is what happens when an offense cannot generate big plays.

The Patriots' defense will make them competitive, especially as their young players mature. But they are already 0-2 with two home games expired. They have their work cut out for them not to miss the playoffs for the second straight season.

Brandon Staley's seat should be getting warm. Early Sunday, the Los Angeles Chargers took an 11-0 lead against an opponent that, dating from last season, had lost eight consecutive games. It should have been an opportunity to cleanse their wrenching season-opening loss, which followed last year's playoff meltdown. It instead became another example of the Chargers' bad habit under Staley: losing games they should have won.

The Chargers possessed the ball twice in the fourth quarter with a four-point lead over the Tennessee Titans. They received the ball first in overtime. They still lost, 27-24, and fell into an 0-2 hole from which it will be difficult to recover. The Chargers mustered three incomplete passes on their overtime possession, then yielded 37 yards that set up Nick Folk's game-winning field goal.

Staley is an alleged defensive guru, but the Chargers' defense wilted the way it has so consistently over the past two seasons. The Chargers are a soft team that tackles poorly and offers quarterbacks little schematic complexity. One week after Tua Tagovailoa passed for 466 yards against them, Ryan Tannehill averaged 10.3 yards per attempt. One week after throwing three interceptions, Tannehill tossed only four incompletions in 24 attempts.

Justin Herbert, who signed a five-year, $262 million contract this summer, is now 25-26 as a starting quarterback in the regular season, with a loss in his only playoff game. Herbert deserves more scrutiny than he typically receives; he is not consistent enough to be considered an elite quarterback despite the breathtaking moments he creates with his best plays. Still, his record is less of a reflection of his ability than of the Chargers' failure to build a winning team around him. That falls on Staley, who has 15 games — at most — to prove he should be the coach to shepherd Herbert's career.

Justin Fields is running out of time. Rather than using the first pick in April's draft to select a quarterback, the Chicago Bears traded it to acquire No. 1 wideout D.J. Moore. They could hardly have made a clearer declaration of commitment to Fields. Given a chance to replace Fields, they built around him.

The opening two weeks have tested the Bears' judgment. Fields has regressed in two ugly losses, including Sunday's 27-17 defeat to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Fields took six sacks and threw two interceptions Sunday, including a bizarre pick-six on a screen pass that traveled about two yards into the hands of a defensive end.

Fields seems to be confused about what kind of quarterback he wants or needs to be. His incandescent running gives the Bears their best chance to win, but he ran four times for three yards against Tampa Bay. He has not replaced that production with an improvement in his processing and passing. He does not make quick decisions and plays behind the game. If he cannot make progress, the Bears will face another massive decision in the offseason: whether to exercise his fifth-year option. Unless Fields progresses, it would be hard for Chicago to commit to him again.



RICHARD RODRIGUEZ/GETTY IMAGES

Jets quarterback Zach Wilson couldn't get much done, courtesy of Micah Parsons and the Cowboys.

Michigan State intends to fire Tucker with cause

TUCKER FROM D1

April 2022. She alleged in the complaint that Tucker masturbated on a phone call with her April 28, 2022. She learned in July 2022 of the sudden cancellation of her scheduled training-session visit to Michigan State, and she filed her complaint in December 2022.

The university gathered evidence ever since. As it suspended Tucker on Sept. 10, Tucker countered that the long-distance relationship was consensual, calling the allegation "completely false." A hearing was set for Oct. 5-6.

Michigan State is one of three Big Ten universities, including neighbors Michigan and Ohio State, that have reeled this century from sexual charges and convictions against university doctors, many of those charges dating from last century. Of those three cases, Michigan State's became the most visible because it included the trial and conviction of osteopathic physician and professor Larry Nassar, imprisoned since 2018 after pleading guilty to using his medical treatment as a facade to assault hundreds of female victims, including members of the U.S. gymnastics team. While the case against Tucker didn't generate any overarching protest Saturday as the Spartans lost, 41-7, to Washington before 70,528 at Spartan Stadium, the rekindling of an old agony did surface in social media posts.

From 1997 to this month, Tucker, who played defensive back at Wisconsin, had a decorated coaching career, largely as an assistant, at seven universities and three NFL franchises. He coached under Nick Saban at Michigan State (1997-98), LSU (2000) and Alabama (2015). He earned two national championship rings as an assistant, at Ohio State (2002) and Alabama (2015). He served as the Jacksonville Jaguars' interim coach in 2011, going 2-3, and as the defensive coordinator for the Cleveland Browns (2008) and Chicago Bears (2013-14).

His work as the defensive coordinator at Georgia (2016-18), under former Alabama boss Kirby Smart, began to place his name into the annual college football whispers, until Colorado hired him away from Georgia in December 2018. He coached the 2019 season at Colorado, going 5-7 but bolting suddenly and controversially in February 2020 for Michigan State, which had just seen the step-down of 13-season coach Mark Dantonio, who had led the program to a College Football Playoff berth (2015-16) and a Rose Bowl win (2013-14) among 114 victories against 57 losses.

At Michigan State, Tucker quickly did two things that lathered him in cachet. His teams beat Michigan twice, in 2020 and 2021, and the 2021 season soared. When Michigan State beat Michigan, 37-33, in an East Lansing thriller Oct. 30, it elevated the Spartans to 8-0 and No. 3 in the country. While losses to Purdue and Ohio State littered the rest of the path, the Spartans closed the regular season by beating Penn State, 30-27, and landed in one of the coveted New Year's Six bowl games, beating Pittsburgh, 31-21, at the Peach Bowl in Atlanta.

Three days before that Penn State game, with fresh suitors becoming part of the talk around Tucker, Michigan State announced the contract that elevated him all the way to second among college coaches in annual compensation behind Saban, who at Alabama had won six national titles already.

At the time, Haller said in a statement, "The decision to extend Mel Tucker's contract is not based on one year of results, but rather it's an investment in a promising future for Spartan football." Board of trustees chairperson Dianne Byrum said, "We are very happy with his success at Michigan State University and the renewed excitement for our football program among the Spartan Community." School president Samuel L. Stanley said, "In less than two years, his leadership has already resulted in a program competing for top honors, and I'm impressed by his intensity and drive."

Tucker wrote on Twitter, "Every day I wake up feeling humbled to be the head football coach at Michigan State," and, "I am honored to be a part of the Spartan process today, and for years to come."

The next season, however, brought a plunging descent. The Spartans went 5-7 with emphatic losses to Minnesota (34-7), Ohio State (49-20), Michigan (29-7) and Penn State (35-16). The Spartans finished 97th in the country in total offense and 101st in total defense. Their season ended in State College, Pa., with Tucker, asked to assess the season, saying, "Now is not the time for me to do that." The contract began to seem even heavier.

Just two Saturdays ago, Michigan State beat visiting Richmond, 45-14, to reach 2-0 against non-Power Five opponents, with No. 8 Washington inbound. "We're going to be prepared," Tucker said. "We got some good players on offense, defense and special teams, and we have potential to get better." By the next day, he was suspended, replaced with acting coach Harlon Barnett, a Spartans pillar who has his own pillar in the stadium hallways noting his late-1980s playing career at the school. By Saturday, the Spartans looked a rare level of helplessness in the 41-7 loss, and Barnett spoke of needing to "normalize."

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL

The Chiefs still aren't where they want to be — but at least they aren't winless

BY MARK MASKE

ANALYSIS

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. — It can be debated whether the Kansas City Chiefs are a full-fledged NFL dynasty. Even if they aren't, they are the closest thing to it the sport has to offer.

So when things aren't quite coming together as scripted early in a season, they know how to balance the urgency of making every game count and the patience of trying to build toward something better in the months to come.

That was the mix of perspectives that accompanied the Chiefs' 17-9 triumph over the Jacksonville Jaguars on a steamy Sunday at EverBank Stadium. The defending Super Bowl champs stumbled and bumbled their way through a sloppy performance on offense, even with tight end Travis Kelce back in the lineup. They leaned on a defense that benefited from the return of standout pass rusher Chris Jones and did just enough against a formidable opponent to avoid digging an 0-2 hole to start the season.

"You play bad and win, it's a lot better than playing bad and losing," quarterback Patrick Mahomes said afterward.

Mahomes is two games into his seventh NFL season, and he is seeking a third MVP award and a third Super Bowl title. Things are not exactly going smoothly. The Chiefs committed three turnovers and had a dozen penalties Sunday, five of them on beleaguered right tackle Jawaan Taylor.

"Our guys really sucked it up, for lack of terms," Coach Andy Reid said. "It was hot and humid out there. I'm an offensive guy. But that was a beautiful thing defensively. Offensively, we've got to take care of the penalties and the turnovers. But to battle through, it shows you a little something. We'll get the other stuff fixed as we go."

The Chiefs have reached five straight AFC championship games. They have played in three Super Bowls and won two of them in that stretch. They know it's a long way until January, and what matters is how you're playing then, not how you're playing now. But they also know that September results matter in playoff positioning — and if early issues go unaddressed too long, a season can slip away before you know it.

"We've been such a prolific offense for so long . . . but if you don't execute [at] a high level in this league, you're not going to have success," Mahomes said. "You're not going to score touchdowns. You're not going to have sustained drives. That's stuff that we have to get better at. We know what we're doing. It's about going out there and executing it, finding the right way to do that. . . . You have to continue to build and build. And know that the process ahead, that you just continue to stack wins no matter how you get them and try to play your best football as the season goes on."



MIKE CARLSON/GETTY IMAGES

"You play bad and win, it's a lot better than playing bad and losing," Patrick Mahomes said.

Said Kelce: "We're going to keep building. We're going to keep growing. I know we've got great leadership. But right now, hats off to the defense, the way they're playing and keeping us in the game. We love them for it. We've got to stop shooting ourselves in the foot on offense."

Kelce missed the Chiefs' 21-20 loss to the Detroit Lions in the NFL's season-opening game because of a knee injury suffered in practice two days earlier. The eight-time Pro Bowl selection wasn't at his best Sunday, with four catches for 26 yards on nine targets. But he did have a touchdown.

"Just the fact that he played — it surprised me, honestly," Mahomes said. "That's a scary injury. He didn't look good there for a little bit. But he battled [with] those extra days. He was in the facility rehabbing. And to get himself out there and be able to play, it talks about the competitor that he is, the teammate that he is. Having him out there not only [involves] him making plays, but it helps everybody else. It gets other guys open."

Kelce said there was "no doubt" in his mind that he would play against the Jaguars.

"Everything that you saw out there was 100 percent of what I could give," Kelce said. "And hopefully next week it'll get even better."

Jones, a four-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle who recorded 15.5 sacks last season, missed the opener because of a contract dispute, then ended his holdout Sept. 11 by agreeing to a revised one-year deal. He had 1.5 sacks Sunday.

"That's what I'm here for," Jones said.

Reid said he estimated Jones could play about half the game.

"We shuttled him in and out," Reid said. "He did a great job. . . . Over the years here, he's learned to keep himself in shape. I saw him out at practice. He was moving around pretty good. . . . I felt comfortable that he would go in and be able to do his thing. Maybe not to that level."

In a rematch of the divisional-round playoff game last season in which Mahomes suffered a high ankle sprain but returned to the field to lead the Chiefs to victory, the Kansas City defense limited the Jaguars to three field goals.

"The defense was incredible," Mahomes said. "That's a good [Jaguars] offense, a really good offense. And for them to shut them down . . . the defense won that game. We have to continue to get better as an offense, which I think we will. But if that defense plays like that, we're going to be a hard team to beat."

The most glaring issue Sunday for the Chiefs was the play of Taylor, who was penalized twice for holding, twice for false starts and once for an illegal formation. That was after he was a national TV star of the wrong kind during the opener, during which the NBC broadcast highlighted that the officials were allowing Taylor to get away with lining up too far back from the line of scrimmage and regularly moving before the snap.

"Through social media," Mahomes said, "you knew that some of this was going to get called. . . . They're cracking down on some of the alignment stuff. But we're playing football, man. He'll get closer to the line of scrimmage . . . so that they don't call it. We'll continue to work the snap counts and stuff like that. He's a great player. He'll continue to play, and he'll get comfortable. It's hard when you're kind of getting picked on a little bit to kind of keep playing your game. But I have all the confidence in him in the world."

The Chiefs signed Taylor, who played his first four NFL seasons for the Jaguars, to a four-year, $80 million contract in March. Reid pulled Taylor from the lineup for a few plays amid Sunday's struggles but then sent him back into the game.

"This is home," Reid said. ". . . It's also where he played. [I told him,] 'Just step back, and let's get you back out there.' He had some big blocks down later in the game."

That pretty much summed up the Chiefs' day. It was far from perfect. But maybe it was a first step toward getting them back to where they want to go.

"It's a work in progress," Mahomes said. "But you want to win games. I thought we did a good job of just finding a way to get a win."



JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

Jonathan Allen, Benjamin St-Juste and Cody Barton were part of a Washington defense that buckled down after some early struggles.

ANALYSIS

'Alarming' defense sparked Washington's comeback

COMMANDERS FROM D1

Near the sideline, Wilson saw Davis and tried to transfer the ball from his right hand to his left. Davis noticed the looseness and punched down at the ball with his right hand.

If Davis hadn't forced a fumble right then, it's unlikely Washington would have pulled off its comeback, which resulted in a 35-33 victory. The Commanders' offense had gone three-and-out on two straight drives. Special teams had just given up a huge punt return. The defense had allowed three touchdowns in three possessions. But instead of Denver effectively putting the game away, Davis forced Wilson to put the ball on the ground, linebacker Cody Barton scooped it up, and everything changed. The offense erased a 21-3 deficit, the defense won another turnover battle (2-0), and the team completed the second-largest road comeback in franchise history.

"A spark?" safety Darrick Forrest said, chuckling at the word's inability to capture the significance of the forced fumble. "That was a game changer."

Several defenders acknowledged it had been easier to maintain hope despite the unit's disastrous start because they believed the offense could pick them up. In his second game with Washington, coordinator Eric Bieniemy put up a higher total of offensive points (35) than his predecessor, Scott Turner, did in his 50 games (34).

"The last two years . . . it was very hard to get more than 21 points," cornerback Benjamin St-Juste said, adding, "[The offense] kept us motivated as a defense, like, 'Okay, we're one or two stops away.'"

Early on, Denver gashed Washington with perimeter runs and deep passes. The Broncos sandwiched a one-play, 60-yard scoring strike between two grinding touchdown drives. On that quick score, Commanders defensive coordinator Jack Del Rio called a corner blitz, so the coverage was what's known as "2-Man," two deep safeties splitting the field with man-to-man coverage underneath. Denver called a great counter with two vertical routes, one up the seam and one up the left sideline, challenging the safeties to choose. Forrest, the safety to the left, hovered above the sideline receiver as Marvin Mims Jr. flew up the seam and away from safety Percy Butler for an easy touchdown. After the play, Butler looked, seemingly exasperated, at Forrest.

"It was just a great call for that coverage," Forrest said later, though he quickly acknowledged he could have been better, too: "I played it terribly."

After the fumble, the secondary kept the roof on its coverages, and the line started to dominate. Del Rio started using more five-lineman fronts, and the penetration prevented Denver from getting to the edge as consistently. On the first drive of the second half, defensive tackle Daron Payne caused a three-and-out by himself with a sack (minus-11), a tackle-for-loss (minus-two) and a batted screen pass at the line of scrimmage.

For the rest of the game, defenders took turns stepping up. Rookie cornerback Emmanuel Forbes nabbed his first interception. End Montez Sweat set the edge to force runs back inside or pressured the quarterback. End Chase Young stopped a drive in the red zone with a sack on third and two — and he equaled his nine-game sack total from 2021 in his season debut (1.5). Once, Sweat and Young met in the backfield to split one on Wilson.

"It's like a g------ Olympic gold medal race," Sweat said of racing linemates to the quarterback. "It's alarming. But I love it because it turns the next man up and it makes the next man know that you can't lack. You can't rest."

After Young's sack, Denver kicked a field goal to trim the deficit to 35-27, and after forcing a punt, it got the ball back at its 13-yard line with 48 seconds left. The Broncos couldn't move the ball, and on fourth and three, safety Kam Curl recognized Wilson tucking the ball to run and ran all the way across the field to make a critical tackle. Wilson had converted the first down, but Curl kept him in bounds and drained about 10 seconds off the clock.

From the 50, with three seconds left, Wilson heaved a Hail Mary toward the end zone. In 2021, Del Rio's unit allowed the New Orleans Saints to hit a Hail Mary just before halftime, but back then, it looked like an effort problem because defenders didn't jump. This time was different; the ball bounced off helmets and outstretched hands until, miraculously, it wound up in the arms of Broncos rookie wide receiver Brandon Johnson.

When Denver lined up for the two-point conversion, St-Juste looked right across the tight formation and saw a wide receiver and tight end lined up next to each other. He said he recognized the play from Wilson's days in Seattle. He knew the receivers were about to run crossing routes.

After the snap, St-Juste dropped, pointed to Forbes and shouted for him to "cut," or switch assignments, which meant St-Juste would pick up Broncos wide receiver Courtland Sutton, who was running to the back right corner of the end zone. St-Juste got to Sutton just before the ball did, forcing an incompletion, and could have been called for pass interference, which the Denver crowd screamed that he should be.

Later, St-Juste just grinned.

"I just made a play," he said. "Friendly neighborhood Spider-Man saving the day."

In the locker room afterward, defenders relished the high of the miracle comeback. They praised Davis, Forbes and St-Juste for coming up with a goal-line stop. Sweat celebrated the return of Young, his close friend.

"Do you feel like you reminded the NFL world just exactly what you are as a player today?" a reporter asked Young.

Young grinned and then, without meaning to, captured what it felt like for the defense on a roller coaster day.

"When you up, they going to praise you," he said. "When you down, they going to hate you. I'm right in the middle."

JERRY BREWER

Commanders fans finally have cause for optimism

BREWER FROM D1

Commanders' arrival as a contender. It has been a dozen years since they started 2-0, but that's more sad than buzzworthy. The good vibes are undeniable, though, and these feelings transcend whether they make the playoffs this season. The energy now tilts toward expectation, not apprehension. You cannot be certain what the Josh Harris group will build, but you're not automatically guarding against incompetence — or worse. It seems safe to wait for something good to happen.

In his 24 years of shoveling dirt on the franchise, Daniel Snyder never missed a tackle, threw an interception or made a horrible coaching decision. It just seemed like he did. As the team failed to sustain anything commendable for long, the debate centered on the impact of bad ownership. Couldn't a great general manager amass the talent to overcome the problem? Couldn't the right coach sustain winning? Couldn't a franchise quarterback make a difference?

In hindsight, there was never any hope for change, just the illusion of it. The embarrassment persisted. There was no shelter from the dark cloud. The negativity of failure after failure, controversy after controversy, made it impossible to cultivate belief.

The vibe of a team doesn't matter much until we notice extremes. Usually, there is little value in exploring something so unquantifiable. But everyone feels the void when being pulled down into it. And everyone delights when the mystical force carries a team beyond its limits.

Something is happening in Washington. Something good. It's not about how well the Commanders are playing. In two games, they have needed second-half rallies to squeak past the Arizona Cardinals, who might end up in the running for the No. 1 overall pick, and the Broncos, who went 5-12 last season. What's more striking is the spirit within the team and around it.

The Commanders are no longer trying to overcome themselves. They have the freedom to become themselves.

"I'm telling you, it feels different," left tackle Charles Leno Jr. told reporters Sunday. "I just feel like this team, we're resilient. We just find ways to win. It doesn't matter what the score is, doesn't matter what the situation is, it's all about getting the W."

It's a far cry from the days of DeSean Jackson posting on Instagram: "You can't do epic [stuff] with basic people."

Or Robert Griffin III declaring in exasperation: "I just work here, man."

For certain, Washington will have conflict and dysfunction. It exists in every football locker room. This sport demands that at least 40 players and a dozen coaches communicate properly and trust each other. Even on wonderful days, there are hordes of mistakes and hurt feelings. In the NFL, the most overanalyzed league in America, petty grievances become major stories.

But a disagreement isn't the same as a feud that destroys a season. In Snyder's culture, Washington had too many morale-crushing crises. But now perhaps Rivera has room to make the training-camp mistake of alluding to players having difficulty adjusting to new offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy's exacting standards without the comment creating factions within the locker room and coaching staff.

After that preseason incident, Rivera apologized quickly. Bieniemy handled it like a professional. The story lasted a couple of days, and the focus turned back to football, not the soap opera.

In the second half Sunday, you saw the potential of Bieniemy's offense against a good Broncos defense. It is not a facsimile of the Kansas City Chiefs system that he used to operate. Sam Howell, in his first year as the starting quarterback, is showing tremendous growth. Brian Robinson Jr. is already among the best power running backs in the league. The Commanders have good wide receivers and solid depth of receiving options regardless of position. Howell and the line must continue to develop, but by season's end, this could be a solid offense.

If so, the Commanders will be able to play the kind of complementary football they have flashed over two games. They won a defensive slugfest in Week 1. They showed the firepower to win a shootout in Week 2. Now they receive a Sunday visit from the Buffalo Bills, who have been Super Bowl contenders for several seasons. It's a perfect time to step up the competition, and based on what I've seen, it would be disappointing if Washington didn't play its best game and, at minimum, give the Bills a good challenge.

A team doesn't learn to believe through only good times. Neither do an organization and its fan base, even if they deserve maximum joy after emerging from obnoxious ownership. Struggle is inevitable and necessary. For so long, Washington had deceiving moments. Everything looked fine until something went wrong. Then after the latest rickety plan fell apart, you realized something: Even the people who should have believed were pretending.

The Commanders don't seem so fragile anymore. They expect more good to come from this season, and the crazy part is, we're no longer preconditioned to consider that hope foolish.

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
z-Atlanta	96	54	.640	—	4-6	L-4
Philadelphia	82	68	.547	14	5-5	W-1
Miami	78	73	.517	18½	5-5	L-1
New York	70	80	.467	26	6-4	W-2
Washington	66	85	.437	30½	3-7	L-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Milwaukee	84	66	.560	—	6-4	L-2
Cincinnati	79	73	.520	6	6-4	W-1
Chicago	78	72	.520	6	2-8	L-5
Pittsburgh	70	80	.467	14	5-5	W-1
St. Louis	67	83	.447	17	6-4	W-2

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
xz-Los Angeles	91	57	.615	—	7-3	W-3
Arizona	79	72	.523	13½	6-4	W-3
San Francisco	76	74	.507	16	6-4	W-1
x-San Diego	72	78	.480	20	6-4	W-4
x-Colorado	56	93	.376	35½	5-5	L-1

x-Late game; z-Clinched division

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
y-Baltimore	94	56	.627	—	5-5	W-3
y-Tampa Bay	92	59	.609	2½	7-3	L-2
Toronto	83	67	.553	11	6-4	W-3
New York	76	74	.507	18	6-4	L-1
Boston	75	76	.497	19½	3-7	W-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Minnesota	79	72	.523	—	5-5	L-1
Cleveland	72	79	.477	7	5-5	L-1
x-Detroit	70	79	.470	8	7-3	W-4
Chicago	58	93	.384	21	3-7	W-1
Kansas City	49	102	.325	30	5-5	W-1

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Houston	84	67	.556	—	4-6	L-1
Texas	82	68	.547	1½	6-4	L-4
x-Seattle	81	68	.544	2	3-7	L-3
Los Angeles	68	82	.453	15½	4-6	L-5
x-Oakland	46	103	.309	37	4-6	L-4

x-Late game; y-Clinched playoff berth

White Sox 6, Nationals 1

WHITE SOX	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Anderson ss	5	1	4	0	0	1	.251
Benintendi lf	3	1	1	1	2	0	.268
Robert Jr. cf	5	1	1	3	0	3	.261
Jiménez dh	5	0	2	0	0	0	.271
Moncada 3b	5	1	2	0	0	3	.259
Vaughn 1b	4	1	2	1	1	0	.260
Grandal c	4	0	1	0	1	0	.236
Sheets rf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.207
Thompson rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.189
Andrus 2b	4	1	1	1	0	1	.257
TOTALS	39	6	15	6	4	8	—

NATIONALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Abrams ss	4	0	2	0	0	0	.244
Thomas rf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.272
Meneses dh	4	0	0	0	0	0	.278
Ruiz c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.251
Smith 1b	4	1	1	1	0	0	.260
Kieboom 3b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.197
L.García 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.254
Alu lf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.221
Young cf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.232
TOTALS	33	1	6	1	0	7	—

CHICAGO 000 033 000 — 6 15 1
WASHINGTON 000 000 001 — 1 6 1

E: Anderson (13), Ruiz (8). **LOB:** Chicago 10, Washington 5. **2B:** Moncada 2 (19), Jiménez (21), Abrams (23). **HR:** Robert Jr. (36), off Adon; Smith (10), off Clevinger. **RBI:** Robert Jr. 3 (78), Vaughn (76), Andrus (42), Benintendi (45), Smith (43). **SB:** Thomas (19), Abrams (42).

WHITE SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Clevinger	9	6	1	1	0	7	110	93.42

NATIONALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Adon	5	9	5	5	2	5	87	6.28
Ferrer	⅔	3	1	1	0	0	19	3.77
Abbott	2⅓	2	0	0	1	1	26	6.90
Ward	1	1	0	0	1	2	24	6.89

WP: Clevinger (8-8); **LP:** Adon (2-3). **Inherited runners-scored:** Ferrer 2-1, Abbott 2-0. **WP:** Abbott. **T:** 2:30. **A:** 20,977 (41,376).

HOW THEY SCORED

WHITE SOX FIFTH
Gavin Sheets singles. Elvis Andrus grounds out. Gavin Sheets out at second. Tim Anderson single. Andrew Benintendi walks. Tim Anderson to second. **Luis Robert Jr. homers, Andrew Benintendi scores, Tim Anderson scores.** Eloy Jimenez flies out.
White Sox 3, Nationals 0
WHITE SOX SIXTH
Yoan Moncada doubles. **Andrew Vaughn singles, Yoan Moncada scores.** Yasmani Grandal singles. Andrew Vaughn to second. Gavin Sheets grounds out. Yasmani Grandal out at second. Andrew Vaughn to third. **Elvis Andrus singles, Andrew Vaughn scores.** Tim Anderson singles. **Elvis Andrus to third. Andrew Benintendi singles, Tim Anderson to third, Elvis Andrus scores.** Luis Robert Jr. flies out.
White Sox 6, Nationals 0
NATIONALS NINTH
Joey Meneses grounds out. Keibert Ruiz pops out. **Dominic Smith homers.** Carter Kieboom strikes out swinging.
White Sox 6, Nationals 1

NL WILD-CARD STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Pct	WCGB
Philadelphia	82	68	.547	+4
Arizona	79	72	.523	+½
Chicago	78	72	.520	—
Cincinnati	79	73	.520	—
Miami	78	73	.517	½
San Francisco	76	74	.507	2

AL WILD-CARD STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Pct	WCGB
Tampa Bay	92	59	.609	+9½
Toronto	83	67	.553	+1
Texas	82	68	.547	—
x-Seattle	81	68	.544	½

x-Late game

NL leaders

Entering Monday's games.

BATTING
Arraez, Mia .353
Acuña Jr., Atl .337
Freeman, LA .335
Bellinger, Chi .311
Betts, LA .310
Harris II, Atl .296

HOME RUNS
Olson, Atl 52
Alonso, NY 45
Schwarber, Phi 44
Betts, LA 39
Acuña Jr., Atl 37
Soler, Mia 36
Riley, Atl 36

RBI
Olson, Atl 129
Alonso, NY 112
Betts, LA 103
Muncy, LA 100
Soto, SD 98
Acuña Jr., Atl 98

ERA
Snell, SD 2.42
Steele, Chi 2.73
Senga, NY 2.96
Webb, SF 3.31
Kelly, Ari 3.45

SAVES
Doval, SF 37
Díaz, Cin 37
Bednar, Pit 36
Williams, Mil 35
Hader, SD 29
Iglesias, Atl 29

STRIKEOUTS
Strider, Atl 259
Snell, SD 217
Peralta, Mil 200
Gallen, Ari 199
Keller, Pit 198

AL leaders

Entering Monday's games.

BATTING
Seager, Tex .337
Díaz, TB .319
Ohtani, LA .304
Bichette, Tor .303
Rodríguez, Sea .287
Yoshida, Bos .285

HOME RUNS
Ohtani, LA 44
Robert Jr., Chi 35
García, Tex 34
Devers, Bos 33
Judge, NY 32
Seager, Tex 31

RBI
Tucker, Hou 105
García, Tex 100
Rodríguez, Sea 99
Devers, Bos 98
Ohtani, LA 95
Bregman, Hou 95
Turner, Bos 94

ERA
Cole, NY 2.81
Gray, Min 2.85
Castillo, Sea 3.08
Bradish, Bal 3.12
Valdez, Hou 3.20
Gausman, Tor 3.40

SAVES
Clase, Cle 41
Romano, Tor 35
Bautista, Bal 33
Estévez, LA 30
Pressly, Hou 30

STRIKEOUTS
Gausman, Tor 222
López, Min 221
Cole, NY 208
Castillo, Sea 199
Cease, Chi 196

Royals 6, Guardians 4

Drew Waters hit a go-ahead double during a two-out rally in the eighth inning, and Kansas City rallied to beat Cleveland.

Jackson Kowar earned the win with a scoreless inning. James McArthur handled the ninth for his first big league save.

GUARDIANS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Kwan lf	4	0	0	0	1	0	.273
Ramírez 3b	2	0	1	0	2	0	.279
J.Naylor dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.311
Calhoun 1b	4	1	1	0	0	2	.233
Fry 1b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.232
Giménez 2b	4	1	3	0	0	0	.248
Arias ss	3	1	1	2	0	2	.215
Brennan rf	4	1	2	0	0	0	.269
B.Naylor c	3	0	1	1	1	0	.233
Straw cf	3	0	0	1	0	2	.227
TOTALS	31	4	9	4	4	7	—

ROYALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Garcia 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.272
Witt Jr. ss	4	1	1	0	0	0	.278
Melendez lf	3	0	1	1	1	0	.233
Blanco pr-lf	0	1	0	0	0	0	.226
Velázquez dh	3	2	1	1	0	1	.235
Massey 2b	3	1	0	1	1	0	.226
Waters rf	4	0	2	2	0	0	.232
Pratto 1b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.231
Porter c	3	0	0	0	0	2	.308
Isbel cf	2	1	0	0	1	0	.232
TOTALS	30	6	6	5	3	5	—

CLEVELAND... 020 101 000 — 4 9 0
KANSAS CITY 001 001 04X — 6 6 0

LOB: Cleveland 6, Kansas City 4. **2B:** B.Naylor (12), Calhoun (6), Waters 2 (9). **3B:** Melendez (5). **HR:** Arias (10), off Singer; Velázquez (11), off Quantrill.

GUARDIANS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Quantrill	5⅔	5	2	2	0	3	5.26
Hentges	1	0	0	0	0	0	3.67
López	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	0.00
Stephan	⅔	0	4	3	3	0	3.76
De Los Santos	⅓	1	0	0	0	1	3.41

ROYALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Singer	6	8	4	4	2	4	5.52
Davidson	1	0	0	0	2	0	5.19
Kowar	1	1	0	0	0	2	4.91
McArthur	1	0	0	0	0	1	6.48

WP: Kowar (2-0); **LP:** Stephan (6-7); **S:** McArthur (1). **Inherited runners-scored:** De Los Santos 3-3. **IBB:** off Davidson (Ramírez). **HBP:** Stephan (Velázquez). **WP:** Kowar. **PB:** B.Naylor (5). **T:** 2:30. **A:** 9,736 (38,427).

Reds 7, Twins 3

Rookie Connor Phillips pitched three-hit ball over seven innings for his first major league win, Will Benson drove in three runs, and Cincinnati defeated Minnesota.

The Reds won for the fifth time in seven games. Spencer Steer had three hits, and Joey Votto capped a three-run seventh inning with a two-run single off Dallas Keuchel.

TWINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Julien dh	3	0	0	0	1	1	.265
Polanco 2b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.260
Lewis 3b	4	1	1	1	0	0	.308
Kepler rf	4	1	2	0	0	0	.255
Correa ss	0	0	0	0	0	0	.230
K.Farmer ph-ss	4	0	1	1	0	0	.246
Kirilloff 1b	4	1	1	1	0	1	.271
Wallner lf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.239
Vázquez c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.213
Taylor cf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.227
TOTALS	33	3	5	3	1	9	—

REDS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
India 2b	3	1	0	0	2	1	.245
Friedl cf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.273
Steer lf	4	1	3	1	0	1	.269
Fraley dh	3	0	0	0	0	0	.265
Senzel ph-dh	1	1	1	0	0	0	.238
Stephenson c	3	1	0	0	1	0	.248
Votto 1b	4	1	2	2	0	1	.208
De La Cruz ss	3	0	0	0	1	2	.233
Marte 3b	3	1	1	1	1	0	.304
Benson rf	3	1	1	3	0	2	.268
TOTALS	31	7	9	7	5	7	—

MINNESOTA.. 000 100 101 — 3 5 0
CINCINNATI... 020 200 30X — 7 9 1

E: De La Cruz (13). **LOB:** Minnesota 4, Cincinnati 6. **2B:** K.Farmer (12), Steer (32). **HR:** Lewis (15), off Phillips; Kirilloff (9), off Phillips; Benson (11), off Ryan.

TWINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Ryan	5	5	4	4	3	5	4.30
Keuchel	3	4	3	3	2	2	5.67

REDS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Phillips	7	3	2	2	1	7	5.74
Law	1	0	0	0	0	0	3.78
Young	1	2	1	1	0	2	3.42

WP: Phillips (1-0); **LP:** Ryan (10-10). **T:** 2:13. **A:** 15,364 (43,891).

Mets 2, Marlins 1

Jeff McNeil hit a tie-breaking homer leading off the ninth inning, and New York knocked Miami out of playoff position with a victory.

Mark Vientos had an RBI single and José Butto pitched six stingy innings to help the fourth-place Mets play spoiler again; they also beat the Cincinnati Reds at home Sunday.

METS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Nimmo cf	5	0	1	0	0	2	.266
Lindor ss	4	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Stewart rf	4	0	1	0	0	3	.265
Alonso 1b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.221
McNeil lf-2b	4	1	2	1	0	0	.266
Mauricio 3b	4	1	1	0	0	3	.308
Narváez c	3	0	1	0	1	0	.188
Vientos dh	4	0	1	1	0	0	.219
Guillorme 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.231
Alvarez ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.218
Ortega lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.225
TOTALS	35	2	8	2	2	10	—

MARLINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Arraez 2b	4	0	2	0	0	0	.354
Soler dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.241
Bell 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.255
Chisholm Jr. cf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.253
Burger 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.305
Sánchez rf	2	1	0	0	1	2	.261
Hampson lf	3	0	2	0	0	0	.289
Wendle ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	.216
Stallings c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.199
TOTALS	31	1	5	0	1	9	—

NEW YORK .... 000 010 001 — 2 8 0
MIAMI........... 000 010 000 — 1 5 2

E: Burger 2 (5). **LOB:** New York 8, Miami 4. **HR:** McNeil (10), off Scott.

METS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Butto	6	4	1	1	1	6	3.09
Hartwig	1	1	0	0	0	1	5.46
Bickford	1	0	0	0	0	0	5.32
Ottavino	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.87

MARLINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Cabrera	5⅓	4	1	1	1	4	4.35
Puk	1⅔	0	0	0	1	2	4.03
Robertson	1	2	0	0	0	2	6.48
Scott	1	2	1	1	0	2	2.23

WP: Bickford (3-2); **LP:** Scott (8-5); **S:** Ottavino (11). **Inherited runners-scored:** Puk 1-0. **IBB:** off Puk (Alonso). **T:** 2:32. **A:** 14,577 (37,446).

Phillies 7, Braves 1

Kyle Schwarber hit a 483-foot homer and Philadelphia went deep four other times in a rout of Atlanta.

Schwarber's two-run shot was the second-longest ball hit at the home of the Braves and the second-longest homer of his career.

The Phillies took a 3½-game lead over idle Arizona for the top NL wild card.

PHILLIES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Schwarber dh	4	1	1	2	1	2	.197
Turner ss	5	0	2	0	0	1	.272
Harper 1b	4	1	1	1	1	1	.290
Bohm 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.279
Stott 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.285
Realmuto c	4	1	1	1	0	0	.248
Castellanos rf	3	2	1	1	1	1	.272
Marsh lf	2	1	0	0	2	2	.283
Rojas cf	4	1	1	2	0	2	.300
TOTALS	34	7	7	7	5	11	—

BRAVES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Acuña Jr. rf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.336
Wall lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.333
Albies 2b	4	1	1	1	0	1	.267
Riley 3b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.276
Olson 1b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.279
Ozuna dh	4	0	1	0	0	2	.265
Rosario lf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.262
Pillar ph-lf-rf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.227
Murphy c	3	0	0	0	0	2	.262
Arcia ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.267
Harris II cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.294
TOTALS	31	1	4	1	2	9	—

PHILA. .... 021 103 000 — 7 7 0
ATLANTA....... 100 000 000 — 1 4 0

LOB: Philadelphia 5, Atlanta 5. **2B:** Acuña Jr. (33), Ozuna (24). **HR:** Rojas (2), off Wright; Harper (18), off Wright; Realmuto (19), off Wright; Castellanos (25), off Tonkin; Schwarber (45), off Tonkin; Albies (31), off Wheeler.

PHILLIES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wheeler	6	3	1	1	2	5	3.63
Soto	1	0	0	0	0	2	4.82
Strahm	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.24
Covey	1	1	0	0	0	1	3.89

BRAVES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wright	4	5	4	4	4	5	7.71
Tonkin	3	2	3	3	1	3	4.08
Luetge	2	0	0	0	0	3	7.24

WP: Wheeler (12-6); **LP:** Wright (0-3). **Inherited runners-scored:** Tonkin 2-0. **T:** 2:31. **A:** 39,216 (41,149).

Cardinals 1, Brewers 0

Adam Wainwright earned his 200th win, pitching seven innings of four-hit ball in a vintage performance as St. Louis beat Milwaukee.

It was the longest outing this season for the 42-year-old Wainwright, who struck out three and walked two. He has won consecutive starts after going 0-10 with a 10.72 ERA over his previous 11 games.

BREWERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Frelick cf	4	0	2	0	0	0	.268
Willi.Contreras c	3	0	1	0	1	1	.283
Santana 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.230
Canha lf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.317
Adames ss	4	0	1	0	0	0	.212
Tellez dh	3	0	0	0	0	2	.214
Donaldson 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.217
Turang 2b	1	0	0	0	1	0	.220
Monasterio ph-2b	1	0	1	0	0	0	.267
Taylor rf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.227
TOTALS	30	0	6	0	2	5	—

CARDINALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Nootbaar cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.263
Goldschmidt 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.271
Burleson dh	3	0	1	0	0	0	.242
Arenado 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.269
Wills.Contreras c	3	1	1	1	0	1	.265
Palacios lf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.259
Walker rf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.273
Edman 2b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.241
Winn ss	3	0	1	0	0	1	.179
TOTALS	29	1	5	1	0	8	—

MILWAUKEE . 000 000 000 — 0 6 0
ST. LOUIS....... 000 100 00X — 1 5 0

LOB: Milwaukee 5, St. Louis 4. **2B:** Adames (24). **HR:** Wills.Contreras (20), off Peralta.

BREWERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Peralta	6	4	1	1	0	6	3.71
Uribe	1	0	0	0	0	2	1.33
Wilson	1	1	0	0	0	0	2.62

CARDINALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wainwright	7	4	0	0	2	3	7.40
King	⅔	2	0	0	0	0	1.72
Helsley	1⅓	0	0	0	0	2	2.43

WP: Wainwright (5-11); **LP:** Peralta (12-9); **S:** Helsley (12). **Inherited runners-scored:** Helsley 1-0. **WP:** Wilson. **T:** 2:06. **A:** 33,176 (44,494).

Red Sox 4, Rangers 2

Rob Refsnyder hit a go-ahead two-run single in the eighth inning, and Boston snapped a four-game skid and dealt playoff-chasing Texas its fourth consecutive loss.

Marcus Semien, the only player on the Rangers to start all 150 of their games this season, hit another leadoff homer and had an RBI single.

RED SOX	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Rafaela cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.296
Devers 3b	3	1	2	0	1	1	.278
Refsnyder lf	4	0	1	2	0	1	.245
Verdugo rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.268
Duvall rf-lf	3	0	0	1	0	2	.247
Reyes ss	4	0	0	0	0	0	.295
Story dh	3	0	0	0	1	1	.181
Dalbec 1b	4	1	2	0	0	1	.263
Urías 2b	3	1	2	1	1	1	.226
Wong c	4	1	1	0	0	1	.245
TOTALS	32	4	8	4	3	10	—

RANGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Semien 2b	4	1	2	2	0	1	.278
Seager ss	4	0	0	0	0	0	.334
Lowe 1b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.276
Garver dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.267
Jung 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.274
García rf	3	0	0	0	1	2	.243
Heim c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.259
Taveras cf	2	0	0	0	1	2	.268
Carter lf	3	1	1	0	0	2	.286
TOTALS	32	2	5	2	2	12	—

BOSTON .... 000 010 030 — 4 8 0
TEXAS .... 100 001 000 — 2 5 0

LOB: Boston 5, Texas 5. **2B:** Dalbec (1), Wong (25). **3B:** Carter (1). **HR:** Semien (25), off Crawford.

RED SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Crawford	6	4	2	2	0	7	4.19
Winckowski	1	0	0	0	2	3	2.88
Whitlock	1	0	0	0	0	0	5.19
Martin	1	1	0	0	0	2	1.07

RANGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Montgomery	7	5	1	1	0	8	3.29
W.Smith	⅓	2	3	3	2	1	4.47
Stratton	1⅓	1	0	0	1	0	2.33
Burke	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	4.30

WP: Winckowski (4-2); **LP:** W.Smith (2-7); **S:** Martin (2). **Inherited runners-scored:** Stratton 2-1, Burke 1-0. **IBB:** off W.Smith (Devers). **WP:** Montgomery. **T:** 2:36. **A:** 27,375 (40,000).



SCOTT TAETSCH/GETTY IMAGES

Joan Adon yielded five runs on nine hits in five-plus innings against Chicago, raising his ERA to 6.28.

Adon continues to learn in Nats' defeat

NATIONALS FROM **D1**

curveball — a pitch below the zone — into the visiting bullpen for a three-run homer.

Adon threw 13 pitches to Robert — one curve, five four-seam fastballs, three change-ups, three sliders and one sinker. Overall, the righty threw 43 four-seamers, 17 change-ups, 11 sinkers, eight sliders and eight curves against the White Sox (58-93), who have the third-worst record in the American League. In the small sample of 10 appearances in 2023, advanced metrics consider Adon's fastball his strongest pitch. His curve, on the other hand, grades as decidedly poor.

Before the series opener, Manager Dave Martinez lamented how Adon had shelved his fastball for long stretches in recent starts. But true to form, Martinez pinpointed the two-out walk to Andrew Benintendi as the biggest error of Adon's fifth. Adon ultimately yielded five runs on nine hits, raising his ERA to 6.28.

"[Catcher] Keibert [Ruiz] came up, and we talked about and we had a game plan, and I actually executed," Adon said in Spanish through a team interpreter, indicating he felt good about throwing the breaking ball out of the zone. "He just had a better game plan."

Adon didn't act alone Monday. The offense couldn't touch Clevinger, who threw a complete game and allowed just six hits to the Nationals (66-85). Clevinger struck out seven.

Adon started the sixth by allowing three straight hits. Rookie Jose A. Ferrer entered and stumbled.

It started well for Ferrer, who induced a double play against the first batter he faced. But after Elvis Andrus extended Chicago's rally with a single, things went sideways. With Tim Anderson at the plate, Ferrer thought he had Andrus picked off first to escape the inning. Ferrer, in fact, was so sure that he dropped his head and began walking off the field.

The problem? Once Smith chased Andrus toward second, Ferrer needed to cover first behind Smith, just in case the rundown pushed Andrus back to where he started. And that's exactly what happened, allowing Andrus to retreat safely before Smith could reach him with a lunging tag. Anderson followed with a single, then Benintendi hit a single that brought in Andrus.

Buried in a six-run hole, Martinez hooked Ferrer and called in long man Cory Abbott. The only remaining question, then, was whether Clevinger could go all the way.

"He just mixed his pitches up," Martinez said. "We made it tough on ourselves, though, 'cause we did a whole lot of chasing. That's the bottom line. We didn't swing at too many strikes. We were all over the map."

Note: Tanner Rainey and Cade Cavalli, both recovering from Tommy John surgery, were at Nationals Park, visiting teammates and the club's medical and coaching staffs. Rainey, who underwent the procedure last summer, is much further along than Cavalli. The 30-year-old reliever has made 13 rehab appearances and is expected to throw a bullpen session in D.C. on Tuesday. Whether he will pitch for the Nationals this season is still to be determined.

Cavalli, on the other hand, had surgery in the spring and is aiming to return by the start of camp in February. But on Monday, Martinez offered an encouraging development for the 25-year-old, who remains one of the team's top prospects: Cavalli could play catch at Nationals Park this week.

NATIONALS ON DECK

vs. Chicago White Sox

Today	7:05	MASN2
Tomorrow	1:05	MASN2

vs. Atlanta Braves

Thursday	7:05	MASN
Friday	7:05	MASN
Saturday	1:05	MASN
Sunday	1:35	MASN

at Baltimore Orioles

Sept. 26	6:35	MASN, MASN2
Sept. 27	6:35	MASN, MASN2

Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM)

Orioles 8, Astros 7

ORIOLES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Henderson 3b-ss	5	3	3	0	0	1	.261
Rutschman c	4	1	1	2	0	1	.269
O'Hearn 1b-lf	5	1	5	2	0	0	.306
Hays lf-rf	4	1	1	0	1	2	.282
Mullins cf	5	1	2	4	0	1	.248
Hicks rf	4	0	1	0	1	1	.288
McCann 1b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.223
Westburg 2b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.266
Frazier ph-2b	2	0	0	0	0	2	.247
Kjerstad dh-lf	5	0	2	0	0	1	.333
Mateo ss	3	1	1	0	0	1	.216
Santander ph-3b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.252
TOTALS	41	8	16	8	2	12	—

ASTROS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Altuve 2b	5	1	2	2	0	0	.312
Bregman 3b	5	0	0	0	0	0	.267
Alvarez dh	4	0	0	0	1	0	.296
J.Abreu 1b	4	1	2	1	1	0	.235
Tucker rf	5	1	2	1	0	0	.284
McCormick lf	3	1	1	1	2	1	.284
Peña ss	4	1	1	1	0	0	.262
Dubón cf	3	1	0	0	1	0	.278
Maldonado c	4	1	2	1	0	2	.191
TOTALS	37	7	10	7	5	3	—

BALTIMORE... 001 020 203 — 8 16 1
HOUSTON...... 100 004 110 — 7 10 0

E: Santander (1). **LOB:** Baltimore 9, Houston 8. **2B:** O'Hearn (21), Rutschman (26), Mullins (22), Altuve 2 (19), Tucker (33), J.Abreu (20). **3B:** Henderson (9), Tucker (3). **HR:** Mullins (15), off Pressly; J.Abreu (16), off Coulombe; Maldonado (14), off Baumann. **RBI:** Rutschman 2 (75), O'Hearn 2 (57), Mullins 4 (73), Tucker (106), McCormick (65), Peña (50), Altuve 2 (48), J.Abreu (82), Maldonado (34). **SB:** McCormick (19). **SF:** Rutschman.

ORIOLES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Means	5	4	1	1	3	1	3.60
Fujinami	⅓	3	3	3	0	0	4.73
Webb	⅔	1	1	1	1	1	3.44
Coulombe	⅔	1	1	1	1	0	2.47
Baumann	1⅓	1	1	1	0	0	3.82
Pérez	⅔	0	0	0	0	0	3.18
Cano	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	1.96

ASTROS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Verlander	6	8	3	3	1	5	3.93
Montero	1	4	2	2	0	1	5.04
Neris	1	1	0	0	0	3	1.90
Pressly	1	3	3	3	1	3	3.84

WP: Baumann (10-1); **LP:** Pressly (3-5); **S:** Cano (7). **Inherited runners-scored:** Webb 1-1, Baumann 1-0, Cano 1-0. **WP:** Fujinami, Verlander, Pressly. **T:** 3:20. **A:** 34,456 (41,000).

Mullins's clutch blast keeps O's party going

ORIOLES 8, ASTROS 7

BY JACOB CALVIN MEYER

HOUSTON — After a celebration as raucous as Sunday's, how much energy a team will have to play nine competitive innings the following day is a question.

It wasn't for the playoff-bound Baltimore Orioles, who are simply too good, too scrappy and too clutch to go away when they're supposed to.

Gunnar Henderson, Ryan O'Hearn, Cedric Mullins and the rest of Baltimore's lineup partied hard Sunday and played just as hard — okay, maybe not that hard — Monday against the Houston Astros.

Henderson twice sprinted 270 feet around the bases. O'Hearn recorded the first five-hit game of his six-year career. And Mullins, whose walk-off sacrifice fly Sunday sent the Orioles into celebration mode after they clinched a playoff spot, did it again with a go-ahead three-run home run in the ninth inning en route to a hold-your-breath 8-7 victory.

Mullins was in position to play hero again after Baltimore's bullpen blew a two-run lead in the sixth and allowed six runs in three innings after five solid frames from John Means in his second start back from the injured list. With the Orioles down two in the ninth and facing Astros closer Ryan Pressly, O'Hearn smacked his fifth hit of the night and Austin Hays put Mullins in his favorite spot — batting with runners in scoring position.

The center fielder stayed back on a 2-1 slider and deposited it over the right field fence to give the Orioles an 8-7 lead that relievers Cionel Pérez and Yennier Cano combined to hold in the ninth to deliver the club's 48th comeback win of the season.

— Baltimore Sun

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NOTES

PERSONNEL DEPT.

Marlins: Reigning NL Cy Young Award winner Sandy Alcantara said he feels confident of returning this season after throwing his second bullpen session Monday. The right-hander has been sidelined since Sept. 6 because of a right forearm flexor strain.

Reds: Placed OF Harrison Bader (groin) on the 10-day injured list and designated OF Hunter Renfroe for assignment.

Red Sox: 1B Triston Casas (.263, 24 homers, 65 RBI) isn't expected to play again this season because of right shoulder inflammation.

Royals: Placed C Salvador Pérez on the seven-day concussion list after the all-star took a foul ball off his mask during Saturday's game.

Twins: SS Carlos Correa left the game at Cincinnati after one inning when he aggravated his left foot, which has plantar fasciitis.

TODAY

Interleague games

WHITE SOX AT NATIONALS, 7:05	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Ureña (R)	0-6	8.48	0-7
Rutledge (R)	0-1	17.18	0-1
TWINS AT REDS, 6:40			
Maeda (R)	5-7	4.50	9-10
TBD	----	----	----
TIGERS AT DODGERS, 10:10			
Olson (R)	4-7	4.30	8-8
TBD	----	----	----

Interleague scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
at Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Yankees 2
L.A. Dodgers 6, at Seattle 1
San Diego 10, at Oakland 1

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Chicago White Sox 6, at Washington 1
at Cincinnati 7, Minnesota 3
Detroit at L.A. Dodgers, late

AL games

ORIOLES AT ASTROS, 8:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Gibson (R)	14-9	4.98	17-13
Brown (R)	11-11	4.61	14-13
ANGELS AT RAYS, 6:40			
Sandoval (L)	7-13	4.48	8-18
Bradley (R)	5-7	5.56	9-10
BLUE JAYS AT YANKEES, 7:05			
Kikuchi (L)	9-6	3.81	18-11
Schmidt (R)	9-8	4.56	13-16
GUARDIANS AT ROYALS, 7:40			
Allen (L)	7-7	3.60	14-9
TBD	----	----	----
RED SOX AT RANGERS, 8:05			
Houck (R)	5-9	4.94	8-10
Eovaldi (R)	11-4	2.96	13-9
MARINERS AT ATHLETICS, 9:40			
Castillo (R)	13-7	3.08	18-12
Blackburn (R)	4-5	4.14	10-8

AL scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
at Baltimore 5, Tampa Bay 4 (11)
at Cleveland 9, Texas 2
at Toronto 3, Boston 2
Houston 7, at Kansas City 1
Minnesota 4, at Chicago White Sox 0
Detroit 5, at L.A. Angels 3

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Baltimore 8, at Houston 7
at Kansas City 6, Cleveland 4
Boston 4, at Texas 2
Seattle at Oakland, late

NL games

METS AT MARLINS, 6:40	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Lucchesi (L)	3-0	2.83	4-3
Garrett (L)	9-6	3.67	20-8
PHILLIES AT BRAVES, 7:20			
Sánchez (L)	2-4	3.40	7-9
Strider (R)	17-5	3.73	23-6
PIRATES AT CUBS, 7:40			
TBD	----	----	----
Assad (R)	3-3	3.10	5-4
BREWERS AT CARDINALS, 7:45			
Houser (R)	6-4	4.53	12-6
Rom (L)	1-2	5.96	2-3
ROCKIES AT PADRES, 9:40			
TBD	----	----	----
Snell (L)	14-9	2.42	16-14
GIANTS AT DIAMONDBACKS, 9:40			
Cobb (R)	7-6	3.62	18-9
Gallen (R)	15-8	3.50	17-14

NL scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 2, at Milwaukee 1 (11)
at N.Y. Mets 8, Cincinnati 4
at Miami 16, Atlanta 2
at St. Louis 6, Philadelphia 5
San Francisco 11, at Colorado 10
at Arizona 6, Chicago Cubs 2

MONDAY'S RESULTS
N.Y. Mets 2, at Miami 1
Philadelphia 7, at Atlanta 1
at St. Louis 1, Milwaukee 0
Colorado at San Diego, late

Against the wall, Mystics look to improve defense

MYSTICS FROM **D1**

"I wouldn't say it's that," Delle Donne said Monday. "Maybe sometimes you'll see nerves, and it translates and almost looks like that. But I wouldn't say our group didn't have effort. We're in the playoffs. I hope to God everybody's playing with effort. Oftentimes that'll be nerves and people second-guessing and not playing as aggressive because they're in their thoughts. So, I think, get that game out of your system and be ready for [Tuesday]."

No matter whether the team can come to a consensus on its effort level, urgency was clearly a focus during Sunday's practice, Myisha Hines-Allen said.

"We have to have a sense of urgency," Hines-Allen said. "We all have playoff experience, in a sense, so we know what it takes to win it. . . . And that sense of urgency is what it takes. So we were preaching that in practice today, like whether it's defense or offense, we have to get it. Tuesday it's win or go home."

The Mystics were 2-2 against the Liberty in the regular season with the two losses decided by a total of 10 points, including one in overtime. So the 15-point loss in Game 1 was a wider margin than expected.

Natasha Cloud flat-out called the defensive performance "lazy." Sabrina Ionescu, who made a franchise postseason record seven three-pointers and scored 29 points, a career playoff high, referenced Cloud waving to the crowd after the regular season finale and told ESPN after Friday's game that "we had to show them what that feels like."



JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

The Mystics are 6-8 this season, including the Game 1 loss to the Liberty, when star Elena Delle Donne scores fewer than 18 points.

Cloud said she plans to match up one-on-one with Ionescu in Game 2.

"Friday night, we didn't bring that mentality," Cloud said. "That is completely changed coming into Tuesday's game. We're going to be in their [stuff]. I'm not coming off of Sabrina for 40 minutes, and that's what it's going to be. So they have a rude awakening for [Tuesday].

"It's very disappointing but humbling at the same time. When we watched film, it was very humbling, and I said that."

If the Mystics were looking for positives, one was Hines-Allen, who had a season-high 21 points after reaching double figures just six times in 35 regular season games. Offseason knee surgery slowed her throughout the season, but she started the past four games and has been a bigger force as a playmaker to go along with her scoring and rebounding.

"To see the ball go in was definitely breathtaking because that was half the issue," Hines-Allen said. "In all the other games, too, I was getting to the rim and just wasn't finishing it. So just to see the ball go in and it just continue to trust my work and just play the same type of confidence and aggressiveness, too."

Hines-Allen's offensive resurgence is crucial to match the firepower of the Liberty, which averaged 89.2 points during the regular season, second most in the WNBA. The Liberty was held to under 75 points just once all season — the 80-64 season opener against the Mystics. New York was held under 80 just six times, and three of those were losses.

"Ninety's too many, and 75 is too few," Thibault said.

The biggest key on offense is Delle Donne, who was held to just 11 points on 5-for-12 shooting in Game 1 despite playing more than 35 minutes. The team is 6-8, including Game 1, in games in which Delle Donne scores fewer than 18 points.

The two-time MVP said the Mystics need to call plays and run their plays to get the best looks. Thibault called it a fine balance because he doesn't want to slow the team down by calling a bunch of sets, but he does want organization, especially early in possessions. He wants to get Delle Donne the ball in better spaces on the court.

"When we kind of just played, you know, whatever ball, we weren't so good," Delle Donne said.

SCOREBOARD

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL

NFC

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Dallas	2	0	0	1.000	70	10
Philadelphia	2	0	0	1.000	59	48
Washington	2	0	0	1.000	55	49
N.Y. Giants	1	1	0	.500	31	68
SOUTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT.**	**PF**	**PA**
Atlanta	2	0	0	1.000	49	34
New Orleans	2	0	0	1.000	36	32
Tampa Bay	2	0	0	1.000	47	34
Carolina	0	2	0	.000	27	44
NORTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT.**	**PF**	**PA**
Detroit	1	1	0	.500	52	57
Green Bay	1	1	0	.500	62	45
Chicago	0	2	0	.000	37	65
Minnesota	0	2	0	.000	45	54
WEST	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT.**	**PF**	**PA**
San Francisco	2	0	0	1.000	60	30
L.A. Rams	1	1	0	.500	53	43
Seattle	1	1	0	.500	50	61
Arizona	0	2	0	.000	44	51

AFC

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Miami	2	0	0	1.000	60	51
Buffalo	1	1	0	.500	54	32
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	.500	32	46
New England	0	2	0	.000	37	49
SOUTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT.**	**PF**	**PA**
Indianapolis	1	1	0	.500	52	51
Jacksonville	1	1	0	.500	40	38
Tennessee	1	1	0	.500	42	40
Houston	0	2	0	.000	29	56
NORTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT.**	**PF**	**PA**
Baltimore	2	0	0	1.000	52	33
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	.500	33	52
Cleveland	1	1	0	.500	46	29
Cincinnati	0	2	0	.000	27	51
WEST	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT.**	**PF**	**PA**
Kansas City	1	1	0	.500	37	30
Las Vegas	1	1	0	.500	27	54
Denver	0	2	0	.000	49	52
L.A. Chargers	0	2	0	.000	58	63

WEEK 2
THURSDAY'S RESULT
at Philadelphia 34, Minnesota 28

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 35, at Denver 33
Baltimore 27, at Cincinnati 24
at Atlanta 25, Green Bay 24
at Buffalo 38, Las Vegas 10
Indianapolis 31, at Houston 20
Kansas City 17, at Jacksonville 9
Seattle 37, at Detroit 31 (OT)
at Tampa Bay 27, Chicago 17
at Tennessee 27, L.A. Chargers 24 (OT)
N.Y. Giants 31, at Arizona 28
San Francisco 30, at L.A. Rams 23
at Dallas 30, N.Y. Jets 10
Miami 24, at New England 17

MONDAY'S RESULTS
New Orleans 20, at Carolina 17
at Pittsburgh 26, Cleveland 22

WEEK 3
THURSDAY'S GAME
N.Y. Giants at San Francisco (-10½), 8:15

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Buffalo (-6½) at Washington, 1
Indianapolis at Baltimore (-8½), 1
Atlanta at Detroit (-3½), 1
Denver at Miami (-6½), 1
Houston at Jacksonville (-9½), 1
L.A. Chargers at Minnesota (-1½), 1
New England (-3) at N.Y. Jets, 1
New Orleans at Green Bay (-1½), 1
Tennessee at Cleveland (-3), 1
Carolina at Seattle (-4½), 4:05
Chicago at Kansas City (-13½), 4:25
Dallas (-12½) at Arizona, 4:25
Pittsburgh (-1½) at Las Vegas, 8:20

MONDAY'S GAMES
Philadelphia (-5½) at Tampa Bay, 7:15
L.A. Rams at Cincinnati (-2½) , 8:15

Saints 20, Panthers 17

NEW ORLEANS	**3**	**3**	**7**	**7**	**—20**
CAROLINA	**3**	**0**	**3**	**11**	**—17**

FIRST QUARTER
Carolina: FG Pineiro 52, 7:04.
New Orleans: FG Grupe 28, :36.

SECOND QUARTER
New Orleans: FG Grupe 23, 9:52.

THIRD QUARTER
Carolina: FG Pineiro 54, 9:10.
New Orleans: T.Jones 2 run (Grupe kick), 2:56.

FOURTH QUARTER
Carolina: FG Pineiro 36, 5:30.
New Orleans: T.Jones 2 run (Grupe kick), 3:14.
Carolina: Thielen 3 pass from B.Young (Thielen pass from B.Young), 1:16.
Attendance: 72,709.

	NO	CAR
First Downs	23	14
Total Net Yards	341	239
Rushes-Yards	33-134	19-100
Passing	207	139
Punt Returns	1-16	2-15
Kickoff Returns	2-47	0-0
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	1-11
Comp-Att-Int	22-37-1	22-33-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	4-29	4-14
Punts	5-42.0	5-47.8
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	3-32	6-35
Time Of Possession	32:49	27:11

PASSING
New Orleans: Carr 21-36-1-228, Hill 1-1-0-8.
Carolina: Young 22-33-0-153.

RUSHING
New Orleans: Hill 9-75, Jones 12-34, Williams 9-29, Carr 3-(minus 4).
Carolina: Sanders 14-43, Young 2-34, Hubbard 2-16, Shenault 1-7.

RECEIVING
New Orleans: Thomas 7-55, Olave 6-86, Shaheed 4-63, Moreau 2-20, J.Johnson 2-13, Hill 1-(minus 1).
Carolina: Thielen 7-54, Hubbard 5-34, Mingo 3-26, Hurst 3-20, Sanders 3-4, Chark 1-15.

MISSED FIELD GOALS
None.

Steelers 26, Browns 22

CLEVELAND	**3**	**11**	**8**	**0**	**—22**
PITTSBURGH	**7**	**9**	**3**	**7**	**—26**

FIRST QUARTER
Pittsburgh: Highsmith 30 interception return (Boswell kick), 14:51.
Cleveland: FG Hopkins 43, 8:46.

SECOND QUARTER
Cleveland: J.Ford 3 pass from Watson (J.Ford run), 14:02.
Pittsburgh: FG Boswell 52, 9:11.
Pittsburgh: Pickens 71 pass from Pickett (run failed), 6:05.
Cleveland: FG Hopkins 55, :22.

THIRD QUARTER
Pittsburgh: FG Boswell 50, 11:47.
Cleveland: Strong 1 run (Watson run), 10:01.

FOURTH QUARTER
Pittsburgh: Watt 16 fumble return (Boswell kick), 6:58.

	CLE	PIT
First Downs	20	9
Total Net Yards	408	255
Rushes-Yards	35-198	21-55
Passing	210	200
Punt Returns	0-0	1-14
Kickoff Returns	0-0	1-0
Interceptions Ret.	1-0	1-30
Comp-Att-Int	22-40-1	15-30-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	6-25	2-22
Punts	5-47.6	7-45.714
Fumbles-Lost	4-3	1-1
Penalties-Yards	8-81	5-31
Time Of Possession	35:28	24:27

PASSING
Cleveland: Watson 22-40-1-235.
Pittsburgh: Pickett 15-30-1-222.

RUSHING
Cleveland: J.Ford 16-106, Chubb 10-64, Watson 6-22, Moore 1-5, Strong 2-1.
Pittsburgh: Harris 10-43, Warren 6-20, Austin 1-(minus 2), Pickett 4-(minus 6).

RECEIVING
Cleveland: Cooper 7-90, Njoku 4-48, Moore 3-36, Da.Bell 3-27, J.Ford 3-25, Peoples-Jones 1-7, Akins 1-2.
Pittsburgh: Pickens 4-127, Warren 4-66, A.Robinson 2-12, Austin 1-10, Boykin 1-5, Freiermuth 1-2, Harris 1-0, Olszewski 1-0.

MISSED FIELD GOALS
Cleveland: Hopkins 43.

HIGH SCHOOLS

FIELD HOCKEY
MARYLAND
Blake 3, Paint Branch 0
Whitman 4, Wootton 1

PRIVATE
Good Counsel 7, Marriotts Ridge 0

VIRGINIA
Heritage 3, Dominion 0
Loudoun County 7, Park View 0

VOLLEYBALL
MARYLAND
Bethesda-Chevy Chase def. Churchill, 3-1
Frederick Douglass def. CMIT North, 3-0 (25-21, 25-20, 25-9)
Wheaton def. Northwood, 3-0

VIRGINIA
Battlefield def. Forest Park, 3-1
Dominion def. Heritage, 3-2 (21-25, 25-16, 25-16, 18-25, 15-10)
Loudoun County def. Woodgrove, 3-1 (24-26, 25-14, 25-19, 25-16)

BOYS' SOCCER
MARYLAND
Bethesda-Chevy Chase 2, Magruder 1
Blair 4, Springbrook 2
Clarksburg 1, Watkins Mill 1
CMIT North 1, Central 1

GIRLS' SOCCER
MARYLAND
Blair 7, Springbrook 1
Mt. Hebron 2, Archbishop Spalding 1
Quince Orchard 2, Whitman 1

PRIVATE
Notre Dame Prep 2, Severn School 0
Potomac School 5, Episcopal 0

TRANSACTIONS

NFL
Arizona Cardinals: Signed S Qwuantrezz Knight. Placed S Budda Baker on injured reserve. Placed OL Hayden Howerton on the practice squad injured reserve. Signed S Joey Blount to the practice squad.
Atlanta Falcons: Signed DE Demone Harris to the practice squad. Released LB Kemoko Turay from the practice squad.
Denver Broncos: Signed OLB Ronnie Perkins.
Carolina Panthers: Promoted OL Justin McCray from the practice squad to the active roster.
Dallas Cowboys: Released RB Ronald Jones.
Houston Texans: Signed DE Derek Rivers to the practice squad.
Minnesota Vikings: Signed G Dalton Risner.
New England Patriots: Released QB Ian Book from the practice squad and QB Matt Corral from the exempt/left squad.
New Orleans Saints: Promoted RB Tony Jones and LB Ty Summers from the practice squad to the active roster.
Philadelphia Eagles: Signed P Braden Mann to the practice squad. Released P Arryn Siposs.
Pittsburgh Steelers: Placed WR Diontae Johnson and RB Anthony McFarland on injured reserve. Promoted RB Qadree Ollison from the practice squad to the active roster.
Tampa Bay Buccaneers: Released OT John Molchon from the practice squad.

MLB
Cleveland Guardians: Placed RHP Tanner Bibee on the 15-day IL. Recalled RHP James Karinchak from Columbus (IL).
Kansas City Royals: Placed C Salvador Perez on the 7-day IL, retroactive to Sept. 17. Transferred C Freddy Fermin from the 10-day IL to the 60-day IL. Selected the contract of C Tyler Cropley from Omaha (IL).
Minnesota Twns: Reinstated OF Michael A. Taylor from the 10-day IL. Designated OF/1B Jordan Luplow for assignment.
Tampa Bay Rays: Reinstated SS Taylor Walls from the paternity list. Optioned RHP Chris Devenski and SS Tristan Gray to Durham (IL). Recalled LHP Jalen Beeks from Durham.
Texas Rangers: Reinstated 3B Josh Jung and OF Adolis Garcia from the 10-day IL. Optioned C Sam Huff and INF Jonathan Ornelas to Round Rock (PCL).
Colorado Rockies: Reinstated RHP Daniel Bard from the 15-day IL. Optioned LHP Evan Justice to Albuquerque (PCL).
Milwaukee Brewers: Placed RHP Thyago Viera on the 15-day IL. Recalled RHP Colin Rea from Nashville (IL).

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Cup Series

POINTS LEADERS
Through Sunday.
1. William Byron, 3036.
2. Martin Truex Jr, 3036.
3. Denny Hamlin, 3032.
4. Kyle Larson, 3023.
5. Chris Buescher, 3021.
6. Kyle Busch, 3019.
7. Christopher Bell, 3016.
8. Tyler Reddick, 3014.
9. Ross Chastain, 3011.
10. Brad Keselowski, 3011.
11. Ryan Blaney, 3008.
12. Bubba Wallace, 3000.
13. Joey Logano, 2071.
14. Kevin Harvick, 2071.
15. Ricky Stenhouse Jr, 2068.
16. Michael McDowell, 2059.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

NCAA

THURSDAY'S GAMES
SOUTH
Georgia State (3-0) at Coastal Carolina (2-1), 7:30
Arkansas Pine Bluff (1-2) at Alabama A&M (1-2), 7:30

FRIDAY'S GAMES
EAST
Brown (1-0) at Harvard (1-0), 7

SOUTH
North Carolina State (2-1) at Virginia (0-3), 7:30

MIDWEST
Wisconsin (2-1) at Purdue (1-2), 7

WEST
Boise State (1-2) at San Diego State (2-2), 10:30
Air Force (3-0) at San Jose State (1-3), 10:30

SATURDAY'S GAMES
EAST
Sacred Heart (0-3) at St. Francis (Pa.) (0-3), noon
Virginia Tech (1-2) at Marshall (2-0), noon
Army (2-1) at Syracuse (3-0), noon
Cornell (1-0) at Yale (0-1), noon
Georgetown (2-1) at Columbia (0-1), 12:30
Stonehill (2-1) at Fordham (2-1), 1
Lehigh (1-2) at Dartmouth (0-1), 1:30
Colgate (0-3) at Holy Cross (2-1), 2
Rhode Island (2-1) at Villanova (2-1), 2
Virginia Lynchburg (0-2) at Robert Morris (1-2), 3
Bryant (1-2) at Princeton (1-0), 3
New Mexico (1-2) at Massachusetts (1-3), 3:30
Texas Tech (1-2) at West Virginia (2-1), 3:30
Duke (3-0) at Connecticut (0-3), 3:30
Penn (1-0) at Bucknell (1-1), 3:30
Miami (3-0) at Temple (2-1), 3:30
Monmouth (N.J.) (1-2) at Lafayette (2-1), 3:30
Richmond (1-2) at Stony Brook (0-3), 3:30
Norfolk State (1-2) at Towson (1-2), 4
Merrimack (1-2) at Wagner (1-2), 4
New Hampshire (2-1) at Delaware (2-1), 6
Albany (N.Y.) (1-2) at Morgan State (1-2), 6
Iowa (3-0) at Penn State (3-0), 7:30
North Carolina (3-0) at Pittsburgh (1-2), 8

SOUTH
Kentucky (3-0) at Vanderbilt (2-2), noon
Butler (2-1) at Stetson (2-1), noon
Florida State (3-0) at Clemson (2-1), noon
Western Kentucky (2-1) at Troy (1-2), noon
Mercer (2-1) at Furman (2-1), 1
Wofford (0-3) at VMI (1-2), 1:30
Chattanooga (2-1) at Samford (1-2), 3
North Carolina Central (2-1) vs. MVSU (0-2) in Indianapolis, 3
Texas Southern (0-3) at Grambling State (1-2), 3
Maine (0-3) at William & Mary (3-0), 3:30
Texas A&M Commerce (0-2) at Old Dominion (1-2), 3:30
Mississippi (3-0) at Alabama (2-1), 3:30
Boston College (1-2) at Louisville (3-0), 3:30
UTSA (1-2) at Tennessee (2-1), 4
Rice (2-1) at South Florida (1-2), 4
Eastern Michigan (2-1) at Jacksonville State (2-1), 5
Central Michigan (1-2) at South Alabama (2-1), 5
The Citadel (0-3) at South Carolina State (0-3), 6
Alabama State (1-1) at Florida A&M (2-1), 6
Elon (1-2) at Campbell (2-1), 6
Gardner Webb (1-2) at East Carolina (0-3), 6
Liberty (3-0) at FIU (3-1), 6:30
Georgia Tech (1-2) at Wake Forest (3-0), 6:30
Bethune-Cookman (1-2) at Jackson State (2-2), 7
Houston Christian (1-2) at Southeastern Louisiana (0-3), 7
Arkansas (2-1) at LSU (2-1), 7
Charlotte (1-2) at Florida (2-1), 7
Prairie View (1-2) at Alcorn State (1-2), 7
UT Martin (2-1) at North Alabama (2-2), 7
St. Andrews (0-0) at Davidson (1-2), 7
Kennesaw State (1-2) at Tennessee Tech (0-3), 7
Colorado State (0-2) at Middle Tennessee (1-2), 7
Nicholls (0-2) at Tulane (2-1), 7
Buffalo (0-3) at Louisiana Lafayette (2-1), 7:30
Mississippi State (2-1) at South Carolina (1-2), 7:30
UAB (1-2) at Georgia (3-0), 7:30

MIDWEST
Rutgers (3-0) at Michigan (3-0), noon
Tulsa (1-2) at Northern Illinois (1-2), noon
Oklahoma (3-0) at Cincinnati (2-1), noon
Marist (0-2) at Valparaiso (0-2), 1
Western Michigan (1-2) at Toledo (2-1), 1:30
Georgia Southern (2-1) at Ball State (1-2), 2
Louisiana Tech (2-2) at Nebraska (1-2), 3:30
BYU (3-0) at Kansas (3-0), 3:30
Maryland (3-0) at Michigan State (2-1), 3:30
Delaware State (0-3) at Miami (Ohio) (2-1), 3:30
Ohio (3-1) at Bowling Green (1-2), 3:30
FAU (1-2) at Illinois (1-2), 3:30
Oklahoma State (2-1) at Iowa State (1-2), 4
Missouri (3-0) vs. Memphis (3-0) in St. Louis, 7:30
Minnesota (2-1) at Northwestern (1-2), 7:30
Ohio State (3-0) at Notre Dame (4-0), 7:30
Akron (1-2) at Indiana (1-2), 7:30
UCF (3-0) at Kansas State (2-1), 8

SOUTHWEST
Auburn (3-0) at Texas A&M (2-1), noon
SMU (2-1) at TCU (2-1), noon
Sam Houston State (0-2) at Houston (1-2), 7
Nevada (0-3) at Texas State (2-1), 7
Southern Mississippi (1-2) at Arkansas State (1-2), 7
Texas (3-0) at Baylor (1-2), 7:30
UNLV (2-1) at UTEP (1-3), 9

WEST
Colorado (3-0) at Oregon (3-0), 3:30
UCLA (3-0) at Utah (3-0), 3:30
Cal Poly (2-1) at Portland State (1-2), 4
Sacramento State (3-0) at Idaho (2-1), 4
Montana (3-0) at Northern Arizona (0-3), 4
Dayton (2-1) at San Diego (0-3), 5
Northern Colorado (0-3) at Idaho State (0-3), 6
Appalachian State (2-1) at Wyoming (2-1), 7
Oregon State (3-0) at Washington State (3-0), 7
Arizona (2-1) at Stanford (1-2), 7
James Madison (3-0) at Utah State (1-2), 8
Western Illinois (0-3) at Southern Utah (0-3), 8
Montana State (2-1) at Weber State (2-1), 8
Eastern Washington (1-2) at UC Davis (2-1), 10
Kent State (1-2) at Fresno State (3-0), 10:30
Southern Cal (3-0) at Arizona State (1-2), 10:30
California (2-1) at Washington (3-0), 10:30

SUNDAY'S GAME
WEST
New Mexico State (2-2) at Hawaii (1-3), 12 a.m.

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA playoffs

Best of three; x-If necessary

FIRST ROUND
LIBERTY LEADS MYSTICS, 1-0
Game 1: at New York 90, Washington 75
Tuesday's game: Washington at New York, 7
x-Friday's game: New York at Washington, 8

ACES ELIMINATED SKY, 2-0
Game 1: at Las Vegas 87, Chicago 59
Game 2: at Las Vegas 92, Chicago 70

SUN AND LYNX TIED, 1-1
Game 1: at Connecticut 90, Minnesota 60
Game 2: Minnesota 82, at Connecticut 75
x-Wednesday's game: Connecticut at Minnesota, 8

WINGS LEAD DREAM, 1-0
Game 1: at Dallas 94, Atlanta 82
Tuesday's game: Atlanta at Dallas, 9
x-Friday's game: Dallas at Atlanta, 10

SEMIFINALS
SEPT. 24-OCT. 3
Best of five
New York/Washington winner vs. Connecticut/Minnesota winner
Las Vegas vs. Dallas/Atlanta winner

FINALS
OCT. 8-20
Best of five
Semifinal winners

SOCCER

MLS

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Cincinnati	17	4	7	58	46	32
Orlando City	14	6	8	50	45	34
New England	13	6	9	48	47	34
Philadelphia	14	8	5	47	49	33
Columbus	13	9	6	45	57	41
Atlanta	12	8	9	45	56	45
Nashville	11	9	7	40	32	27
CF Montréal	11	14	3	36	28	40
D.C. United	9	12	8	35	37	38
Chicago	8	11	9	33	32	42
Charlotte FC	7	9	11	32	34	43
New York City FC	6	10	13	31	28	36
New York	7	12	9	30	24	33
Inter Miami CF	8	15	4	28	32	44
Toronto FC	4	14	10	22	24	41
WEST	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
St. Louis City SC	15	10	4	49	56	38
Los Angeles FC	12	9	7	43	44	34
Seattle	11	9	9	42	35	30
Vancouver	11	8	8	41	45	37
Houston	11	10	7	40	37	32
Real Salt Lake	11	10	7	40	39	41
San Jose	10	9	10	40	34	37
Minnesota United	9	9	10	37	34	34
Portland	9	11	9	36	36	45
Sporting KC	9	12	8	35	39	40
FC Dallas	9	10	8	35	30	31
Austin FC	9	13	6	33	39	45
LA Galaxy	7	11	9	30	35	45
Colorado	4	13	10	22	18	40

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
D.C. United 0, at Charlotte FC 0
New York 0, at New York City FC 0
at Atlanta 5, Miami 2
Chicago 0, at CF Montréal 0
at Orlando City 4, Columbus 3
Cincinnati 2, at Philadelphia 2
Vancouver 2, at Toronto FC 1
Seattle 1, at FC Dallas 1
St. Louis City SC 1, at Houston 1
Sporting KC 1, at Minnesota 0
at Colorado 2, New England 1
at Los Angeles FC 4, LA Galaxy 2
at San Jose 2, Real Salt Lake 1

SUNDAY'S RESULT
Portland 2, at Austin FC 1

WEDNESDAY'S MATCHES
Atlanta at D.C. United, 7:30
Philadelphia at Charlotte FC, 7:30
Chicago at Columbus, 7:30
Toronto FC at Miami, 7:30
Cincinnati at CF Montréal, 7:30
Austin FC at New York, 7:30
Orlando City at New York City FC, 7:30
Vancouver at Houston, 8:30
Nashville at Sporting KC, 8:30
Los Angeles FC at St. Louis City SC, 8:30
Seattle at Colorado, 9:30
FC Dallas at Real Salt Lake, 9:30
Minnesota at LA Galaxy, 10:30
San Jose at Portland, 10:30

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
New York at D.C. United, 7:30
CF Montréal at Atlanta, 7:30
Charlotte FC at Cincinnati, 7:30
Toronto FC at New York City FC, 7:30
Los Angeles FC at Philadelphia, 7:30
New England at Chicago, 8:30
Columbus at FC Dallas, 8:30
Houston at Sporting KC, 8:30
St. Louis City SC at Minnesota, 8:30
Vancouver at Real Salt Lake, 9:30
Colorado at Portland, 10:30
Nashville at San Jose, 10:30

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
Miami at Orlando City, 7:30
LA Galaxy at Austin FC, 9:30

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27
FC Dallas at Philadelphia, 7:30
Vancouver at Colorado, 9:30

MLS leaders

Entering Wednesday's matches.

GOALS

Denis Bouanga, LFC	14
Giorgos Giakoumakis, ATL	14
Hany Mukhtar, NSH	14
Luciano Acosta, CIN	13
Alan Pulido, KC	13

ASSISTS

Thiago Almada, ATL	15
Carles Gil, NE	13
Hector Herrera, HOU	13
Luciano Acosta, CIN	11
Juan Hernandez, CLB	11

SHOTS

Juan Hernandez, CLB	115
Denis Bouanga, LFC	108
Thiago Almada, ATL	99
Hany Mukhtar, NSH	98

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Portland	9	5	5	32	40	25
San Diego	9	7	3	30	27	22
Gotham FC	8	5	6	30	23	19
North Carolina	8	7	4	28	27	21
OL Reign	8	8	3	27	25	23
Washington	6	5	8	26	24	27
Orlando	8	10	1	25	23	25
Angel City	6	6	7	25	24	27
Louisville	5	5	9	24	22	19
Houston	5	6	8	23	13	15
Kansas City	7	11	1	22	21	29
Chicago	6	10	3	21	24	41

FRIDAY'S RESULT
Houston 1, at Louisville 0

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
at Gotham FC 2, Washington 0
Kansas City 2, at San Diego 1
at Portland 2, OL Reign 0

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Angel City 2, at Chicago 2
at Orlando 2, North Carolina 1

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30
Kansas City at Washington, 7
Louisville at Chicago, 8
San Diego at Portland, 10:30

SUNDAY, OCT. 1
Houston at Gotham FC, 8:30
North Carolina at OL Reign, 8

MONDAY, OCT. 2
Orlando at Angel City, 10

FRIDAY, OCT. 6
Washington at OL Reign, 8
Orlando at Louisville, 7:30

SATURDAY, OCT. 7
Gotham FC at Portland, 5
San Diego at North Carolina, 7
Chicago at Kansas City, 8

SUNDAY, OCT. 8
Angel City at Houston, 7

TENNIS

WTA

GUADALAJARA OPEN
At Panamerican Tennis Center; in Guadalajara, Mexico
Purse: $2,788,468
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

SINGLES — ROUND OF 64
Victoria Azarenka (10), Belarus, def. Robin Montgomery, United States, 6-1, 6-1; Magdalena Frech, Poland, def. Camila Osorio, Colombia, 6-1, 6-2; Storm Hunter, Australia, def. Iryna Shymanovich, Belarus, 6-3, 6-4; Camila Giorgi, Italy, def. Mayar Sherif (14), Egypt, 7-5, 6-3; Caroline Dolehide, United States, def. Peyton Stearns, United States, 6-7 (7-1), 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-2); Marta Kostyuk, Ukraine, def. Stacey Fung, Canada, 6-3, 2-6, 6-0; Emma Navarro, United States, def. Maria Mateas, United States, 6-0, 6-4; Emiliana Arango, Colombia, def. Anastasia Potapova (11), Russia, 6-4, 6-3; Veronika Kudermetova (7), Russia, def. Eugenie Bouchard, Canada, 6-2, 6-7 (7-4), 6-4.

SINGLES — ROUND OF 32
Martina Trevisan, Italy, def. Jasmine Paolini (15), Italy, 7-5, 6-2; Hailey Baptiste, United States, def. Karolina Pliskova (16), Czech Republic, 7-6 (7-5), 5-7, 7-6 (7-4); Veronika Kudermetova (7), Russia, def. Eugenie Bouchard, Canada, 6-2, 6-7 (7-4), 6-4.

DOUBLES — ROUND OF 32
Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, and Alycia Parks, United States, def. Zhaoxuan Yang, China, and Anna Danilina (7), Kazakhstan, 7-6 (7-5), 2-6, 10-7; Aldila Sutjiadi, Indonesia, and Miyu Kato (8), Japan, def. Iryna Shymanovich, Belarus, and Cristina Bucsa, Spain, 2-6, 6-3, 10-5; Jasmine Paolini, Italy, and Mayar Sherif, Egypt, def. Nicole Melichar-Martinez, United States, and Ellen Perez (6), Australia, 6-1, 6-4; Monica Niculescu, Romania, and Alexa Guarachi, Chile, def. Lauren Davis and Robin Montgomery, United States, 7-5, 6-7 (7-5), 12-10; Asia Muhammad and Caroline Dolehide, United States, def. Magdalena Frech, Poland, and Dayana Yastremska, Ukraine, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (9-7); Ulrikke Eikeri, Norway, and Ingrid Neel, Estonia, def. Maria Paulina Perez Garcia, Colombia, and Sofia Sewing, United States, 6-2, 6-2.

PARMA LADIES OPEN
At Tennis Club President; in Parma, Italy
Purse: $106,952
Surface: Red clay

SINGLES — ROUND OF 32
Viktoriya Tomova (4), Bulgaria, def. Eleonora Alvisi, Italy, 7-5, 1-6, 6-0; Chloe Paquet, France, def. Jennifer Ruggeri, Italy, 6-3, 6-4; Erika Andreeva, Russia, def. Dalila Jakupovic, Slovenia, 6-4, 6-3; Aliona Bolsova (8), Spain, def. Dalila Spiteri, Italy, 6-1, 7-6 (7-1); Antonia Ruzic, Croatia, def. Giorgia Pedone, Italy, 6-3, 7-6 (7-2); Reka Luca Jani, Hungary, def. Ylena In-Albon, Switzerland, 4-6, 6-1, 6-1; Anna-Karolina Schmiedlova (1), Slovakia, def. Carole Monnet, France, 6-3, 6-4; Anna Bondar (7), Hungary, def. Silvia Ambrosio, Italy, 6-2, 6-2.

DOUBLES — ROUND OF 16
Eva Vedder and Isabelle Haverlag, Netherlands, def. Alexandra Osborne, Australia, and Ali Collins, Britain, 6-2, 6-2; Eleonora Alvisi and Jennifer Ruggeri, Italy, def. Conny Perrin, Switzerland, and Alena Fomina, Russia, 6-3, 3-6, 11-9.

ATP

SINGLES RANKINGS
Through Sunday.
1. Novak Djokovic, Serbia, 11795
2. Carlos Alcaraz, Spain, 8535
3. Daniil Medvedev, Russia, 7280
4. Holger Rune, Denmark, 4710
5. Stefanos Tsitsipas, Greece, 4615
6. Andrey Rublev, Russia, 4515
7. Jannik Sinner, Italy, 4465
8. Taylor Fritz, USA, 3955
9. Casper Ruud, Norway, 3560
10. Alexander Zverev, Germany, 3030
11. Frances Tiafoe, USA, 2690
12. Alex de Minaur, Australia, 2685
13. Tommy Paul, USA, 2660
14. Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada, 2340
15. Karen Khachanov, Russia, 2135
16. Hubert Hurkacz, Poland, 2035
17. Cameron Norrie, Great Britain, 1985
18. Lorenzo Musetti, Italy, 1925
19. Ben Shelton, USA, 1735
20. Grigor Dimitrov, Bulgaria, 1735
21. Francisco Cerundolo, Argentina, 1635
22. Nicolas Jarry, Chile, 1494
23. Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, 1474
24. Tallon Griekspoor, Netherlands, 1446
25. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina, Spain, 1435
26. Borna Coric, Croatia, 1415
27. Daniel Evans, Great Britain, 1381
28. Sebastian Baez, Argentina, 1375
29. Alexander Bublik, Kazakhstan, 1349
30. Jiri Lehecka, Czech Republic, 1338
31. Denis Shapovalov, Canada, 1325
32. Christopher Eubanks, USA, 1313
33. Sebastian Korda, USA, 1295
34. Adrian Mannarino, France, 1286
35. Tomas Martin Etcheverry, Argentina, 1285
36. Ugo Humbert, France, 1198
37. Laslo Djere, Serbia, 1190
38. Lorenzo Sonego, Italy, 1140
39. Mackenzie McDonald, USA, 1120
40. Stan Wawrinka, Switzerland, 1084
41. Andy Murray, Great Britain, 1075
42. Roberto Bautista Agut, Spain, 1050
43. Max Purcell, Australia, 1047
44. Arthur Fils, France, 1032
45. Alexei Popyrin, Australia, 1030
46. Yoshihito Nishioka, Japan, 1025

WTA

SINGLES RANKINGS
Through Sunday.
1. Aryna Sabalenka, Belarus, 9266
2. Iga Swiatek, Poland, 8195
3. Coco Gauff, USA, 6165
4. Jessica Pegula, USA, 5755
5. Elena Rybakina, Kazakhstan, 5665
6. Marketa Vondrousova, Czech Republic, 3830
7. Ons Jabeur, Tunisia, 3771
8. Karolina Muchova, Czech Republic, 3765
9. Maria Sakkari, Greece, 3560
10. Barbora Krejcikova, Czech Republic, 3220
11. Caroline Garcia, France, 3050
12. Madison Keys, USA, 2940
13. Daria Kasatkina, Russia, 2790
14. Petra Kvitova, Czech Republic, 2750
15. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, 2715
16. Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, 2580
17. Liudmila Samsonova, Russia, 2415
18. Beatriz Haddad Maia, Brazil, 2260
19. Veronika Kudermetova, Russia, 2250
20. Ekaterina Alexandrova, Russia, 2250
21. Donna Vekic, Croatia, 2125
22. Zheng Qinwen, China, 2123
23. Victoria Azarenka, Belarus, 2065
24. Elina Svitolina, Ukraine, 1809
25. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 1760
26. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 1685
27. Magda Linette, Poland, 1666
28. Anhelina Kalinina, Ukraine, 1562
29. Elise Mertens, Belgium, 1509
30. Marie Bouzkova, Czech Republic, 1453
31. Zhu Lin, China, 1391
32. Elisabetta Cocciaretto, Italy, 1390
33. Mayar Sherif, Egypt, 1385
34. Danielle Collins, USA, 1376
35. Jasmine Paolini, Italy, 1330
36. Karolina Pliskova, Czech Republic, 1325
37. Wang Xinyu, China, 1323
38. Sloane Stephens, USA, 1265
39. Petra Martic, Croatia, 1263
40. Anna Blinkova, Russia, 1263
41. Linda Noskova, Czech Republic, 1204
42. Marta Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1195
43. Peyton Stearns, USA, 1186
44. Varvara Gracheva, Russia, 1178
45. Alycia Parks, USA, 1168

GOLF

Official World Golf Ranking

Through Sunday.

1.	Scottie Scheffler	11.50
2.	Rory McIlroy	10.71
3.	Jon Rahm	9.54
4.	Viktor Hovland	7.78
5.	Patrick Cantlay	7.25
6.	Xander Schauffele	6.73
7.	Max Homa	5.22
8.	Matt Fitzpatrick	5.07
9.	Brian Harman	4.99
10.	Wyndham Clark	4.83
11.	Tyrrell Hatton	4.52
12.	Jordan Spieth	4.36
13.	Cameron Smith	4.28
14.	Tommy Fleetwood	4.23
15.	Brooks Koepka	4.08
16.	Cameron Young	4.03
17.	Keegan Bradley	4.01
18.	Tom Kim	4.01
19.	Collin Morikawa	3.92
20.	Sam Burns	3.84
21.	Tony Finau	3.76
22.	Sepp Straka	3.70
23.	Jason Day	3.62
24.	Justin Thomas	3.56
25.	Rickie Fowler	3.48
26.	Will Zalatoris	3.42
27.	Sungjae Im	3.38
28.	Russell Henley	3.31
29.	Sahith Theegala	3.20
30.	Kurt Kitayama	3.12
31.	Ryan Fox	3.03
32.	Lucas Glover	3.00
33.	Corey Conners	2.88
34.	Shane Lowry	2.74
35.	Emiliano Grillo	2.68
36.	Justin Rose	2.67
37.	Denny McCarthy	2.66
38.	Hideki Matsuyama	2.66
39.	Harris English	2.54
40.	Si Woo Kim	2.52
41.	Adam Scott	2.38
42.	Adam Schenk	2.32
43.	J.T. Poston	2.31
44.	Cameron Davis	2.28
45.	Min Woo Lee	2.16
46.	Chris Kirk	2.16
47.	Taylor Moore	2.14
48.	Nick Taylor	2.11
49.	Billy Horschel	2.05
50.	Tom Hoge	2.01

LPGA Tour

MONEY LEADERS
Through Sunday.

		Trn	Money
1.	Allisen Corpuz	20	$2,952,832
2.	Ruoning Yin	16	$2,626,543
3.	Lilia Vu	15	$2,564,131
4.	Charley Hull	15	$2,292,687
5.	Celine Boutier	17	$2,185,557
6.	Hyo Joo Kim	15	$1,737,687
7.	Yuka Saso	16	$1,683,474
8.	Jin Young Ko	14	$1,490,931
9.	Ayaka Furue	19	$1,486,620
10.	Xiyu Lin	17	$1,484,218
11.	Nasa Hataoka	18	$1,430,369
12.	Brooke M. Henderson	20	$1,381,244
13.	Megan Khang	17	$1,280,191
14.	Minjee Lee	15	$1,189,936
15.	Angel Yin	14	$1,188,477
16.	Nelly Korda	14	$1,153,676
17.	Rose Zhang	8	$1,080,049
18.	Leona Maguire	15	$1,058,736
19.	Hae Ran Ryu	19	$1,043,141
20.	Amy Yang	15	$978,684
21.	Carlota Ciganda	17	$968,626
22.	Ashleigh Buhai	19	$919,638
23.	Ally Ewing	17	$914,925
24.	Linn Grant	17	$914,925
25.	Atthaya Thitikul	15	$827,449
26.	Cheyene Knight	18	$826,756
27.	Hannah Green	15	$819,651
28.	Anna Nordqvist	14	$817,986
29.	Grace Kim	16	$809,497
30.	Georgia Hall	18	$806,449
31.	Maja Stark	17	$746,678
32.	Aditi Ashok	16	$729,179
33.	A Lim Kim	15	$701,300
34.	Ariya Jutanugarn	19	$672,974
35.	Jennifer Kupcho	19	$608,909
36.	Gaby Lopez	18	$604,612
37.	Stephanie Meadow	17	$555,213
38.	Jenny Shin	18	$554,450
39.	Hye-Jin Choi	18	$541,347
40.	Bailey Tardy	17	$538,908
41.	Celine Borge	18	$535,732
42.	Andrea Lee	19	$523,649
43.	Jodi Ewart Shadoff	18	$517,403
44.	Perrine Delacour	17	$503,439
45.	Alison Lee	18	$473,807
46.	Gemma Dryburgh	18	$467,164
47.	Esther Henseleit	18	$454,853
48.	Elizabeth Szokol	16	$448,174
49.	Pajaree Anannarukarn	18	$448,104
50.	Sei Young Kim	17	$446,207

LPGA Tour

SOLHEIM CUP STANDINGS
Through Sunday.
1. Lilia Vu, 536.5
2. Nelly Korda, 494.5
3. Allisen Corpuz, 404
4. Megan Khang, 362.5
5. Jennifer Kupcho, 283
6. Danielle Kang, 281
7. Andrea Lee, 259
8. Lexi Thompson, 258
9. Ally Ewing, 232.5
10. Alison Lee, 197
11. Cheyenne Knight, 195
12. Angel Yin, 184
13. Ryann O'Toole, 156.5
14. Jessica Korda, 154
15. Marina Alex, 133.5

LPGA Tour

STATISTICS
Through Sunday.

SCORING
1, Hyo Joo Kim, 69.831. 2, Jin Young Ko, 70.019. 3, Atthaya Thitikul, 70.173. 4, Xiyu Lin, 70.183. 5, Ruoning Yin, 70.263. 6, Linn Grant, 70.286. 7, Nelly Korda, 70.346. 8, Carlota Ciganda, 70.4. 9, Lilia Vu, 70.438. 10, Charley Hull, 70.442.

DRIVING DISTANCE
1, Polly Mack, 279.57. 2, Xiaowen Yin, 279.3. 3, Yan Liu, 274.81. 4, Madelene Sagstrom, 273.43. 5, Emily Kristine Pedersen, 273.26. 6, Bailey Tardy, 272.63. 7, Maria Fassi, 272.43. 8, Mel Reid, 272.2. 9, Yuka Saso, 271.96. 10, Yealimi Noh, 270.91.

GREENS IN REGULATION
1 (tie), Hyo Joo Kim, Minjee Lee and Anna Nordqvist, .74%. 4 (tie), Linn Grant, Megan Khang, Jin Young Ko, Jennifer Kupcho and Hae Ran Ryu, .73%. 9, 2 tied with .72%.

PUTTS PER GIR
1, Yaeeun Hong, 1.72. 2, Danielle Kang, 1.74. 3, 8 tied with 1.75.

BIRDIES
1, Nasa Hataoka, 269. 2, Ashleigh Buhai, 250. 3, Hyo Joo Kim, 246. 4, Xiyu Lin, 245. 5, Hye-Jin Choi, 242. 6, Minjee Lee, 241. 7 (tie), Ayaka Furue, Georgia Hall and Ariya Jutanugarn, 237. 10, Allisen Corpuz, 236.

EAGLES
1, Jennifer Kupcho, 12. 2 (tie), Charley Hull and Bailey Tardy, 9. 4 (tie), Stephanie Kyriacou, Hae Ran Ryu and Yuka Saso, 8. 7, 10 tied with 7.

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850 Montgomery County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 **Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,**

vs.

JOSUE E. JIMENEZ 8323 Shady Spring Drive Gaithersburg, MD 20877 Defendant(s).

Case No.C-15-CV-23-001465

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **30th day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **8323 Shady Spring Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20877**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **29th day of September, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **29th day of September, 2023.** The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$365,000.00.**

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland

BWW#MD-361111

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434372

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane S. Rosenberg, et al 4340 East West Highway, Suite 600 Bethesda, MD 20814 **Substitute Trustee Plaintiff(s)**

V.

Tahani Taha 8045 Newell Street Unit 105 Silver Spring, MD 20910 Defendant(s)

Case No. C-15-CV-22-004007

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **15th day of September, 2023** by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, that the sale of **8045 Newell Street, Unit 105, Silver Spring, MD 20910,** made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **16th day of October, 2023,** provided a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **16th, day of October, 2023.** The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$171,000.00.**

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk of the Circuit Court Montgomery County, Maryland

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012436203

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 **Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,**

VS.

BARBARA ANNETTE SHERMAN AKA BARBARA ANNETTE SHERMAN-ROCHA (DECEASED) 3333 University Boulevard West Unit 601 Kensington, MD 20895 Defendant(s).

Case No.C-15-CV-23-001342

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **30th day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **3333 University Boulevard West, Unit 601, Kensington, MD 20895**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **2nd day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **2nd day of October, 2023.** The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$255,000.00.**

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland

BWW#MD-356776

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434371

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

ERIC D. VANDELINDE 201 International Circle, Suite 230 Hunt Valley, MD 21030 **Substitute Trustee Plaintiff**

V.

SOMERS, LORRAINE 13000 SHADYSIDE LN UNIT 13-217, GERMANTOWN, MD 20874 Defendant

Civil No.: C-15-CV-22-000838

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby issued by the Circuit Court of MONTGOMERY COUNTY this **29th day of August, 2023** that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported by Eric D. Vandelinde, Substitute Trustee, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **28th day of September, 2023**, provided, a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post a newspaper published in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, once in each of three successive weeks, before the **28th day of September, 2023.** The Report of Sale states the amount of sale to be **$245,000.00.**

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk Circuit Court for MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434289

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 **Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,**

vs.

NAZNIN A. BHUIYAN AKA NAZNIN A. HAQUE AKA NAZNIN A. BHUIYAN 7401 18th Avenue Unit 112 Hyattsville, MD 20783 Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-23-001503

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **29 day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **7401 18th Avenue, Unit 112, Hyattsville, MD 20783**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIEDAND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **29 day of September, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **29 day of September, 2023.** The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$74,000.00.**

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland #769

BWW#MD-359514

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434230

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 **Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,**

vs.

LONA MAE MONROE (DECEASED) 7722 Penbrook Place Landover, MD 20785 Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-23-000958

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **31 day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **7722 Penbrook Place, Landover, MD 20785**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **2 day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **2 day of October, 2023.** The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$207,261.83.**

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland #769

BWW#MD-361797

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434558

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al. 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101 Rockville, MD 20852 **Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,**

vs.

ALFREDA C. BOGGS CHARLES REGINALD BOGGS 2517 Eliot Place Temple Hills, MD 20748 Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-23-001723

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **31 day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **2517 Eliot Place, Temple Hills, MD 20748**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **2 day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **2 day of October, 2023.** The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$295,000.00.**

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland #793

BWW#MD-362307

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434553

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BEVERLY WEISS MANNE, GEOFFREY L. FORMAN and W. SCOTT TINNEY IV, 1500 One PPG Place Pittsburgh, Pa 15222, **Plaintiffs,**

vs.

ALLENE GRAVES, Trustee under the Allene Graves Trust dated December 29, 2005 5200 Newton Street, Apt. 202 Bladensburg, MD 20710, Defendant.

Case No. CAEF17-29241

NOTICE

ORDERED, this **12th day of September, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property at **5200 Newton Street, Apt. 202, Bladensburg, MD 20710**, mentioned in these proceedings and reported by Beverly Weiss Manne et. al., Substitute Trustees, be ratified and confirmed unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before **12th day of October, 2023**, next, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in some newspaper published in said County once in each of three successive weeks before the **12th day of October, 2023**. The report states the amount of the sale to be **$80,000.00.**

Mahasin El Amin
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Prince George's MARYLAND

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435761

820 Official Notices

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS
ONE COUNTY COMPLEX COURT
PRINCE WILLIAM, VIRGINIA 22192

September 26, 2023
Public Hearings

7:30 p.m.

1. **Rezoning #REZ2018-00024, MGM Enterprises Office Building:** To rezone ±4.76 acres from A-1, Agricultural, and O(L), Office Low-Rise, to O(M), Office Mid-Rise, to develop a four-story mixed-use building with office and retail space at a maximum height of 55 feet. The site is located along eastbound Prince William Parkway; ±125 feet west of the intersection with Hoffman Dr. and ±1,225 feet southeast of the intersection with Hillendale Dr. The subject property is currently addressed as 3939 Prince William Parkway and is identified on County maps as GPIN 8192-66-8293. The site is currently designated OMU-3, Office Mixed Use, which recommends up to 0.57 FAR in the Comprehensive Plan; and is located within the Dale City Small Area Plan and Dale City Parkway Node special planning areas, and partially located within the Prince William Parkway Highway Corridor Overlay District. **Neabsco Magisterial District**

2. **Special Use Permit #SUP2023-00015, Jiffy Lube SUP Amendment**: This is a request to amend SUP1999-0039 to add one additional service bay to the existing building. The Property is located on 13300 Minnieville Road, approximately 560 feet east of Fowke Lane. The subject site is identified on County maps as GPIN 8292-66-0804 on ± 0.75 acres; is zoned B-1, Commercial and is designated MU-4, Mixed-Use with which recommends up to 1.38 FAR in the Comprehensive Plan; and is located within the Highway Corridor Overlay District. **Occoquan Magisterial District.**

3. **Special Use Permit #SUP2023-00016, Rona Naill Family Day Home:** This is a request for a special use permit to allow a family day home for up to 5 children and 1 employee. The site is located at 12967 Terminal Way, approximately ±205 feet northwest of the intersection of Ticket Way and Terminal Way, the property is identified on County maps as GPIN 8093-00-2608. The site is zoned RPC, Residential Planned Community and is designated RPC, Residential Planned Community, in the Comprehensive Plan and is located within the Highway Corridor Overlay District, the Environmental Resource Protection Overlay, and the Agritourism and Arts Overlay District. Neabsco Magisterial District

4. **Special Use Permit #SUP2023-00029, Sicat Home Business**: This is a request for a special use to allow a home-based firearm business processing and dealing in firearm sales, transfers, gunsmithing, and firearms manufacturing with walk-in customers by appointment only, in a single-family dwelling. The property is located ±75 feet northwest of the intersection of Blackburn Ridge Drive and Wheeler Ridge Drive; is addressed as 11168-Wheeler Ridge Drive; and is identified on County maps as GPIN 7597-83-6333. The site is zoned PMR, Planned Mixed Residential, and is designated RN-3, Residential Neighborhood, in the Comprehensive Plan and is located within the Sudley Road Redevelopment Corridor, the Airport Safety Overlay District, and the Agritourism and Arts Overlay District. **Gainesville Magisterial District**

5. **Special Use Permit #SUP2022-00026, RMFD Enterprises Home Business:** This is a request for a special use permit to allow a home-based business to buy and sell firearms with walk-in customers by appointment only, in a single-family dwelling. The property is located ±230 feet southwest of the intersection of Cockspur Lane and Thunderbolt Road in the Potomac Shores Community. The property is identified on County maps as GPIN 8288-68-6650 and is addressed as 2765 Cockspur Lane. The site is zoned PMR, Planned Mixed Residential and is designated RN-2, Residential Neighborhood, in the Comprehensive Plan, and is located within the Marine Corps Base Quantico Special Planning Area. **Potomac Magisterial District**

For additional information regarding the Board meeting, please contact the Clerk to the Board at (703) 792-6600. All meeting materials are posted online when the agenda is published, and a copy of all staff reports, proposed resolutions and ordinances, and other documentation will be available for review by the public in the office of the Clerk of the Board at One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, 22192.

Members of the public may appear at the Board of County Supervisors' Chamber in the McCoart Building, One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, at the designated time to express their views.

ACCESSIBILITY TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: The hearings are being held at a public facility believed to be accessible to persons with disabilities. Any persons with questions on the accessibility of the facility should contact the Clerk to the Board at One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, or by telephone at (703) 792-6600 or TDD (703) 792-6295. Persons needing translation or interpreter services must notify the Clerk to the Board no later than 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

8713 KELSO TERR.
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20877

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated June 2, 2005, recorded in Liber 30142, Folio 437 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $279,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:35 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $25,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 142825-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435603



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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

3127 W. UNIVERSITY BLVD., UNIT #9
A/R/T/A 3127 UNIVERSITY BLVD. WEST, UNIT #9
KENSINGTON, MD 20895

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated January 4, 2008, recorded in Liber 35255, Folio 682 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $211,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:37 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit numbered 3127D-9 in a plan of subdivision styled "Plan of Condominium Subdivision - Montgomery Century Condominium," and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $20,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 359214-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435604

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
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www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

716 HARRINGTON ROAD
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated February 14, 1996 and recorded in Liber 13952, Folio 538 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $172,500.00, and an interest rate of 8.250%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

October 6, 2023 AT 4:00 pm

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $7,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 460112)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435608

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

1213 CLAGETT DR.
ROCKVILLE, MD 20851

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated November 8, 2006, recorded in Liber 33504, Folio 531 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $306,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:31 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $24,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 356219-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435601

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

16013 CHESTER MILL TERR.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 4, 2006, recorded in Liber 33259, Folio 603 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $493,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:33 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $56,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 355119-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435602

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

160 TALBOTT ST., UNIT 160-104
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 29, 2007, recorded in Liber 35242, Folio 524 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $223,250.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:27 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit Number 160-104 in a Plan of Condominium Subdivision styled "Condominium Plat - Woodmont Spring Condominium" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $19,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 137961-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435396

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

9255 BROWN CHURCH RD.
MOUNT AIRY, MD 21771

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 28, 2006, recorded in Liber 33797, Folio 287 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $369,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:29 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $24,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 340688-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435400

850 Montgomery County

McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC
312 Marshall Avenue, Suite 800
Laurel, MD 20707
www.mwc-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

7 ALPEN GREEN CT., UNIT #20-209 BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Shareef Akbar Mustafaa and Halimah Mustafaa, dated February 5, 2007 and recorded in Liber 33832, folio 376 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof and at the request of the parties secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:05 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Montgomery County, Maryland and described as Unit 209, Building 20, Phase XI, in the "Townes of Gloucester Condominium" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
The property, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, encumbrances and agreements of record affecting the subject property, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in such other form as the Substitute Trustees may determine, at their sole discretion, for $20,000 at the time of sale. If the noteholder and/or servicer is the successful bidder, the deposit requirement is waived. Balance of the purchase price is to be paid within ten (10) days of the final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase price at the rate of 5% per annum from date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees, if the property is purchased by an entity other than the noteholder and/or servicer. If payment of the balance does not occur within ten (10) days of ratification, the deposit will be forfeited as liquidated damages. The purchaser agrees that the property may be resold pursuant to an order of court, waives personal service upon themselves and/or any principal or corporate designee of any documents filed regarding the failure to pay the purchase price within ten (10) days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail of said documents at the address provided by the purchaser in the Memorandum of Sale. The purchaser will not be entitled to any surplus or profits arising from the resale even if they are the result of improvements made by the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event settlement is delayed for any reason. Taxes, water rent, and all other public charges and assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale, and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes (including agricultural transfer taxes, if applicable), and all settlement charges shall be borne by the purchaser. The sale is subject to a post sale audit of the loan, including but not limited to an analysis of whether the borrower entered into a loan modification agreement, filed bankruptcy, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. The Substitute Trustees will convey either insurable or marketable title. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable or marketable title or, the post sale audit concludes that the sale should not have occurred, or the sale is not ratified by the court for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit without interest even if the purchaser has made improvements to the property. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. The purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall assume the risk of loss for the property immediately after the sale. (Matter #19-602576).

Laura H. G. O'Sullivan, et al., Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435391

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

12137 CYPRESS SPRING RD. CLARKSBURG, MD 20871

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Vilma Montano dated September 1, 2006 and recorded in Liber 33088, folio 503 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:46 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #02-03427815.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $100,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-000759-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435376

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

7401 WESTLAKE TERRACE, UNIT #311 BETHESDA, MD 20817

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated February 19, 2007 and recorded in Liber 034071, Folio 0082 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland modified by Loan Modification Agreement recorded on May 13, 2019, in the Land Records of Montgomery County at Liber No. 57563, Folio 339, with an original principal balance of $210,800.00, and an interest rate of 3.875%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

September 29, 2023 AT 3:52 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property being sold is a condominium unit and all common elements appurtenant thereto.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $20,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 426039)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434547

Parker, Simon & Kokolis, LLC
110 N. Washington St., Suite 500
Rockville, MD 20850
301-656-5775

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE REAL PROPERTY CONDOMINIUM UNIT

12701 FOUND STONE ROAD #301 GERMANTOWN, MD 20876

(Case No.: C-15-CV-23-001909 in The Circuit Court for Montgomery County)

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Melissa Louise Wyman dated December 20, 2006 and recorded in Book 33548, page 499 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, a default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, 50 Maryland Avenue Rockville, MD 20850 on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:17 PM

The following described property, thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property address being known as: 12701 Found Stone Road Unit 301 Germantown , MD 20876
Tax ID No. 02-03285882
The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit in the amount of $30,000 in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in any other form suitable to the Substitute Trustees in their sole discretion, shall be required at the time of sale, except no deposit shall be required of the secured party, its successors or assigns. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten (10) days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that the property will be resold and the entire deposit shall be retained by the Substitute Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting Purchaser. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 7.99% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of current year's real property taxes are adjusted as of the date of sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Taxes due for prior years including costs of any tax sale are payable by the purchaser. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. Any deferred water and sewer charges that purports to cover or defray cost during construction of public water or wastewater facilities constructed by the developer and subject to an annual fee or assessment are to be paid by the purchaser to the lienholder and are a contractual obligation between the lienholder and the owner of the property, and is not a fee or assessment imposed by the county. Any right of prepayment or discount for early prepayment of water and sewer charges may be ascertained by contacting the lienholder. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All costs of recordation including but not limited to transfer taxes, recordation taxes, agricultural or other taxes or charges assessed by any governmental entity as a condition to recordation shall be paid by Purchaser, whether or not Purchaser is a First Time Maryland Homebuyer. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/ or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. The Substitute Trustees will convey either insurable or marketable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at sale.

Craig A. Parker and Thomas J. Kokolis
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435390

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

18816 FALLING STAR ROAD GERMANTOWN, MD 20874

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated July 21, 2005 and recorded in Liber 30803, Folio 508 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $599,700.00, and an interest rate of 4.000%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

September 29, 2023 AT 3:50 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $46,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 459978)
This property will be sold subject to the IRS right of redemption for a period of 120 days after the sale.

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434305

Parker, Simon & Kokolis, LLC
110 N. Washington St., Suite 500
Rockville, MD 20850
301-656-5775

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE REAL PROPERTY SEMI-DETACHED DWELLING

213 SWANTON LANE GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878

(Case No.: C-15-CV-22-003341 in The Circuit Court for Montgomery County)

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Manisha B. Patel dated October 30, 2019 and recorded in Book 61208, page 322 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, 50 Maryland Avenue Rockville, MD 20850 on

October 6, 2023 AT 4:15 PM

The following described property, thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
Lot One Hundred Three (103) in Block Lettered E in the subdivision known as Plat 24, Plat of Resubdivision, Quince Orchard Park, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat of Resubdivision at Plat No. 21915, among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.
The property address being known as: 213 Swanton Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Tax ID No. 09-03347143
The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit in the amount of $45,000 in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in any other form suitable to the Substitute Trustees in their sole discretion, shall be required at the time of sale, except no deposit shall be required of the secured party, its successors or assigns. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten (10) days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that the property will be resold and the entire deposit shall be retained by the Substitute Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting Purchaser. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of current year's real property taxes are adjusted as of the date of sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Taxes due for prior years including costs of any tax sale are payable by the purchaser. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. Any deferred water and sewer charges that purports to cover or defray cost during construction of public water or wastewater facilities constructed by the developer and subject to an annual fee or assessment are to be paid by the purchaser to the lienholder and are a contractual obligation between the lienholder and the owner of the property, and is not a fee or assessment imposed by the county. Any right of prepayment or discount for early prepayment of water and sewer charges may be ascertained by contacting the lienholder. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All costs of recordation including but not limited to transfer taxes, recordation taxes, agricultural or other taxes or charges assessed by any governmental entity as a condition to recordation shall be paid by Purchaser, whether or not Purchaser is a First Time Maryland Homebuyer. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/ or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. The Substitute Trustees will convey either insurable or marketable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at sale.

Craig A. Parker and Thomas J. Kokolis
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435389

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

3330 N. LEISURE WORLD BLVD., UNIT #315 A/R/T/A UNIT #5-315 SILVER SPRING, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated February 23, 2009, recorded in Liber 36866, Folio 79 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $243,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:40 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit No. 315, as shown on the plat entitled "The Fairways at Leisure World" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $11,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 358681-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434593

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
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Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

1626 NORDIC HILL CIR. SILVER SPRING, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Hector Del Castillo and Alexandra Del Castillo dated February 24, 2006 and recorded in Liber 31989, folio 567 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:42 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #13-02500955.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $38,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 23-000958-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435368

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

10500 ROCKVILLE PIKE, UNIT #712 ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated August 31, 2006, recorded in Liber 33060, Folio 215 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $175,920.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:32 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit Number 712 in Grosvenor Park II Condominium and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $17,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 362882-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434590

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6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

3940 CHESTERWOOD DR. 73 SILVER SPRING, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated August 16, 2005, recorded in Liber 31359, Folio 473 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $233,600.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:36 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit No 3940, in a Condominium known as Montgomery Chase Condominium and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $24,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 350465-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434592

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

844 QUINCE ORCHARD BLVD., UNIT #102
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated May 23, 2006, recorded in Liber 32457, Folio 375 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $134,320.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit No. 844-102 in Diamond Farms Condominium and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $7,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 352153-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434589

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Bethesda, MD 20814
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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

11528 SOWARD DR.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20902

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Amir Rahbar dated April 13, 2020 and recorded in Liber 59719, folio 161 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 4:02 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #13-01247598.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $37,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-003273-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434536

BWW Law Group, LLC
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Rockville, MD 20852
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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

205 GREENSPRING LN.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20904

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 6, 2004, recorded in Liber 29518, Folio 34 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $522,400.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 4:02 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $46,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 361136-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433979

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Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

4806 TOTHILL DR.
OLNEY, MD 20832

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Yuvinka Covert Deugarte dated January 4, 2002 and recorded in Liber 20410, folio 431 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 4:44 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #08-03103691.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $17,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-001833-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435370

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

11507 SUTHERLAND HILL WAY
SILVER SPRING, MD 20904

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated August 28, 2006, recorded in Liber 32992, Folio 736 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $376,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 3:56 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $25,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 334413-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433975

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

10963 MIDDLEBORO DR.
DAMASCUS, MD 20872

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated March 28, 2019, recorded in Liber 57397, Folio 13 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $416,130.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:34 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $41,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 361591-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434591

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

3305 CAMDEN ST.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20902

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated February 9, 2005, recorded in Liber 29298, Folio 317 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $342,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 3:58 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $35,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 355316-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433976

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

19948 BUHRSTONE DR.
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20886

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Allen D. Read, Jr. and Candice H. Read dated December 27, 2004 and recorded in Liber 29191, folio 158 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 4:12 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #09-01881058.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $14,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-000043-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433961

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

618 EDEN PL.
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20877

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated June 22, 2018, recorded in Liber 56314, Folio 211 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $417,100.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 3:54 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $50,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 363211-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433974

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

14005 HARTLEY HALL PLACE
DARNESTOWN, MD 20874

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated November 30, 2012 and recorded in Liber 45638, Folio 146 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $604,000.00, and an interest rate of 2.500%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

September 22, 2023 AT 3:44 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $50,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 446422)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433949

850 Montgomery County | 850 Montgomery County

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

19452 SAINT JOHNSBURY LANE
GERMANTOWN, MD 20876

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated February 5, 2021 and recorded in Liber 62128, Folio 4 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $275,837.00, and an interest rate of 2.250%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

September 22, 2023 AT 3:42 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $26,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 460186)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433947

851 Prince Georges County | 851 Prince Georges County

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

9203 Loughran Road
Fort Washington, MD 20744

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to PRLAP, INC. , Trustee(s), dated December 28, 2007, and recorded among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 29188, folio 221, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and described as follows:
BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NUMBERED FOUR (4) IN BLOCK LETTERED "J" IN A SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "SECTION 3, SOUTH FORT FOOTE VILLAGE" AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK WWW 47 AT PLAT 84 AND AS PER PLAT OF CORRECTION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK WWW 69 AT PLAT 43 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.
TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 2.741% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.
The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sol remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. (65506)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012432417

851 Prince Georges County | 851 Prince Georges County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
4805 WHITFIELD CHAPEL ROAD
LANHAM, MD 20706

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated July 25, 2007, and recorded in Liber 28754, folio 83, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $405,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 20-2218063

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $25,000.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.99% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-054434)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012432215

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
5600 RUGGED LANE
CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD 20743

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated February 5, 2021, and recorded in Liber 44930, folio 477, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $495,853.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 18-3824406

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $47,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 2.125% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (23-094370)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 5,12,19 2023 L0011331

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane S. Rosenberg, et al
4340 East West Highway,
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
Substitute Trustee
Plaintiff(s)

V.

The Estate of Aileene Culley
Sheila R Culley-Aidoo
3808 Keehar Court
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774
Defendants(s)

Case No. C-16-CV-22-000079

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this **13 day of September, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland that the sale of **3808 Keehar Court, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774**, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **13 day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **13 day of October, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$576,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Prince George's County,
Maryland #793

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435757

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

GREGORY THORNE,
Substitute Trustee, et al,
Plaintiffs,

V.

INTERNATIONAL REALTY PARTNERS, LLC,
Defendant(s)

Case No. CAEF21-14767

NOTICE
ORDERED this **30 day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S County, Maryland, that the sale of the property at **13014 Woodmore North Boulevard, Bowie, MD 20720** mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported Gregory Thorne, et. al, Substitute Trustees, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **30 day of September, 2023** next, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in some newspaper published in said County once in each of three successive weeks before the **30 day of September, 2023** next. The report states the amount of sale to be **$775,018.41**.

Mahasin El Amin
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY,
MARYLAND #793

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434596

851 Prince Georges County | 851 Prince Georges County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
13003 BRICE CT
UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20774

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated November 17, 2006, and recorded in Liber 29493, folio 659, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $399,900.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 07-3579513
The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $23,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 6.75% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-084736)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 5,12,19 2023 L0011280

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
7107 FRESNO ST
CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD 20743

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated November 26, 2013, and recorded in Liber 35479, folio 217, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $147,872.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 18-2111649

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $15,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 4.125% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-065747)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 5,12,19 2023 L0011309

852 Anne Arundel County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Keith Yacko, et al.
Substitute Trustees

Versus

Anita A. Young, et al.
Defendants

No. C-02-CV-23-000361

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, August 28, 2023** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Jennifer Deardorff, BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **27TH day of September 2023** next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **27th day of September 2023** next. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **1415 LARCH ROAD, SEVERN, MD 21144** to be **$345,732.56**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundel County, MD.

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433953

852 Anne Arundel County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Keith Yacko, et al.
substitute Trustees

Versus

Keith A. Begis, et al.
Defendants

No. C-02-CV-23-000379

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, August 28, 2023** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Jennifer Deardorff, BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **27th day of September 2023** next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **27th day of September 2023** next. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **95 CREEK VIEW COURT, PASADENA, MD 21122** to be **$273,000.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundel County, MD

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433957

853 Calvert County | 853 Calvert County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
4706 ALLEN EARLIE RD
PRINCE FREDERICK, MD 20678

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated October 19, 2009, and recorded in Liber 3411, folio 0315, of the land records of CALVERT COUNTY , with an original principal balance of $101,750.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE CALVERT COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 175 MAIN ST, PRINCE FREDERICK, MD 20678 ON,

OCTOBER 5, 2023 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in CALVERT COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 02-076861

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $7,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.000% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-037565)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012433333

855 Charles County | 855 Charles County

SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C.
448 Viking Drive, Suite 350
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23452

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE
SHARES OF CAPITAL STOCK
"MEMBERSHIP SHARES" OF THE
POTOMAC HEIGHTS MUTUAL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
A cooperative housing corporation, entitling the owner thereof to possession of a dwelling unit
KNOWN AS
12 Circle Avenue
INDIAN HEAD, MD 20640

SALE ON
OCTOBER 5, 2023 at 12:30 PM

By virtue of the power and authority contained in a certain Security Agreement, dated May 9, 2022, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the secured creditor, by its undersigned attorney will sell at Public Auction at THE **CHARLES COUNTY** COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 200 Charles Street (breezeway between circuit court and district courts).

All the membership shares described in said Security Agreement being shares of Capital Stock of POTOMAC HEIGHTS MUTUAL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., allocated to 12 Circle Avenue, INDIAN HEAD, MD 20640, together with all rights, duties and obligations under the terms of a certain Occupancy Agreement. Subject to the terms, provisions and conditions contained in the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Occupancy Agreement and House Rules of POTOMAC HEIGHTS MUTUAL HOMEOWNERS ASSOC, INC.

The membership shares will be sold subject to their proportionate share of certain underlying purchase money mortgages, the exact amount due thereon will be announced at time of sale and subject to all conditions, liens restrictions and agreements of record affecting same, and subject to any assessments.

TERMS OF SALE: A cash deposit, certified check or cashier's check in the amount of $20,000.00 will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale, except that the Secured Party will not be required to give a deposit. Balance to be paid in cash 30 days following sale. Interest to be charged at the rate of 4.25 per annum on the unpaid purchase price from date of sale to date of settlement. All costs incident to the transfer of membership shares shall be borne by the purchaser. All adjustments of cooperative fees and assessments will be made as to date of sale, and to be assumed by thereafter by the purchaser. In the event that the purchaser fails to go to settlement as required, the property shall be re-sold at purchaser's risk and expense and the deposit is forfeited. If secured convey, purchaser's sole remedy is return of the deposit. Additional Sale terms announced at the sale.

Robert A. Jones, et al.
Substitute Trustees
Attorneys

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012433941

852 Anne Arundel County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Keith Yacko, et al.
Substitute Trustees

Versus

Howard D. Caulfield, Sr., et al.
Defendants

No. C-02-CV-23-000201

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, August 28, 2023** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Jennifer Deardorff, Esq., Substitute Trustee BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **27th day of September 2023 next**; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **27th day of September 2023 next**. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **1605 KIMBER ROAD, GLEN BURNIE, MD 21060** to be **$198,000.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundle County, MD

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434217

855 Charles County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane Rosenberg, et al.
4340 East west Highway,
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
Substitute Trustees
Plaintiff(s)

V.

Estate of
Mary Catherine Farmer
Estate of Lawson E Makle
Estate of Mary V. Makle
3720 Mount Pleasant Road
Waldorf, MD 20601

Case No. C-08-CV-23-000310

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this **24 day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for Charles County, Maryland, that the sale of **3730 Mount Pleasant Road, Waldorf, MD 20601**, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **26 day of September, 2023**, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **25 day of September, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$161,000.00**.

Lisa E. Yates
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Charles County, Maryland

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434561

855 Charles County | 855 Charles County

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP
201 International Circle, Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
4385 RENNER ROAD
Waldorf, MD 20602

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from MARY C. PRUITT, dated August 9, 2007 and recorded in book 06427 , page 0301 among the Land Records of **CHARLES COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-08-CV-22-000386; Tax ID No. 08-023581) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction CHARLES COUNTY courthouse located at 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 .

OCTOBER 5, 2023 at 12:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $ 34,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for CHARLES COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 44377.0346)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON,
MARC MEDEL,
NICOLE LIPINSKI,
Substitute Trustee (s)

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012432996

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 Viking Drive, Suite 350
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23452

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE
A cooperative housing corporation, entitling the owner thereof to possession of a dwelling unit
KNOWN AS
30 GREENWOOD PLACE,
INDIAN HEAD, MD 20640

SALE OCTOBER 5, 2023 at 12:30 PM

By virtue of the power and authority contained in Security Agreement from Virginia G Horstkamp, Debtor to PNC Bank, National Association, dated December 19, 2006, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, by its undersigned attorney will sale at public auction at Charles County Circuit Court, 200 Charles Street (breezeway between circuit and district courts)

All the membership shares described in said Security Agreement being shares of Potomac Heights Mutual Home Owners Association, Inc. allocated to 30 Greenwood Place, Indian Head, MD 20640, together with all rights, duties and obligations under the terms of a certain Occupancy Agreement between Virginia G Horstkamp, and Potomac Heights Mutual Home Owners Association, Inc. Subject to the terms, provisions and conditions contained in the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Occupancy Agreement and House Rules of Potomac Heights Mutual Home Owners Association, Inc.

The membership shares will be sold subject to their proportionate share of certain underlying purchase money mortgages, the exact amount due thereon will be announced at time of sale if known and subject to all conditions, liens restrictions and agreements of record affecting same, and subject to any assessments in accordance with the cooperative operative documents.

TERMS OF SALE: A cash deposit, certified check or cashier's check in the amount of $20,000.00 will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale, except that the Secured Party will not be required to give a deposit. Balance to be paid in cash 30 days following sale. Interest to be charged at the rate of 6.75% per annum on the unpaid purchase price from date of sale to date of settlement. All costs incident to the transfer of membership shares shall be borne by the purchaser. All adjustments of cooperative fees and assessments will be made as to date of sale, and to be assumed by thereafter by the purchaser. In the event that the purchaser fails to go to settlement as required, the property shall be re-sold at purchaser's risk and expense and the deposit is forfeited. If secured convey, purchaser's sole remedy is return of the deposit. Additional Sale terms announced at the sale. Trustee's File No. 64582

Robert A. Jones, et al. Substitute Trustees
Attorneys

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012433965

855 Charles County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane S. Rosenberg
4340 East West Highway,
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
Substitute Trustee
Plaintiff(s)

V.

Janet Elizabeth Custis
1142 Hamlin Road
Waldorf, MD 20602
Defendant(s)

Case No. C-08-CV-23-000293

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this **29th day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for Charles County, Maryland, that the sale of **1142 Hamlin Road, Waldorf, MD 20602**, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **18th day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **19th, day of October, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$228,000.00**.

Lisa E. Yates
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Charles County, Maryland

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434287

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855 Charles County | 855 Charles County

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
10626 RIVA PLACE
WHITE PLAINS, MD 20695

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to , Trustee(s), dated December 11, 2007, and recorded among the Land Records of **CHARLES COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 6536, folio 185, Modified on February 28, 2015, in Book No. 8943, at Page 402 and Modified on June 22, 2015, in Book No. 9011, at Page 280 the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 ON,

OCTOBER 5, 2023 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED NINETY (90) IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "PLAT ONE, SECTION ONE, PHASE THREE, SOUTHWINDS, AS PER PLAT RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND IN PLAT BOOK 49, PAGE 81.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 4.375% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sol remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. (36618)

John E. Driscoll, III, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012433940

855 Charles County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Richard E. Solomon
Richard J. Rogers
Michael McKeefery
Christianna Kersey
Kevin Hildebeidel
1099 Winterson Road,
Suite 301
Linthicum Height, MD 21090
Substitute Trustees
Plaintiffs

V.

Christine G. Reese a/k/a
Christine Lynn Gordon

AND

Francis M. Reese

704 Clarks Run Road
La Plata, MD 20646
Defendants

Case No. C-08-CV-22-000394

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **31 day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Charles County, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **3 day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this notice be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Charles County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **2 day of October, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$310,581.12**. The property sold herein is known as **704 Clarks Run Road, La Plata, MD 20646**.

Lisa E. Yates
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Charles County, Maryland

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434582

856 Frederick County

CIRCUIT COURT FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND
100 West Patrick Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701
Clerk of the Court: 301-600-1976
Assignment Office:
301-600-2015

Case Number:
C-10-CV-23-000087
Other Reference Numbers:

RICHARD SOLOMON, ESQUIRE

VS.

WAYNE DOWNING

Date: 8/29/2023

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby issued by the Circuit Court for Frederick County this **29th day of August 2023**, that the sale made and recorded by Richard Solomon, Et Al for the sale of the property described in these proceedings

130 Stonegate Drive,
Frederick, MD 21702

be ratified and confirmed thirty (30) days from the date of this Notice, unless cause to the contrary be shown, provided a copy of this Notice be inserted in some Newspaper published in this County, once in each of three (3) successive weeks. The report states the amount of the sale to be **$236,000.00**.

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434221

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877 Spotsylvania County

Trustee's Sale
13402 Hilliard Court,
Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553
(Parcel ID: 9-2-33)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 30, 2021, in the original principal amount of $545,606.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the **County of Spotsylvania**, Virginia in Instrument No. 210023454, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on **October 18, 2023, at 1:00 pm**, in front of the building housing the Spotsylvania County Circuit Court, 9107 Judicial Center Lane, at the Circuit Court entrance, Spotsylvania, VA 22553, the property containing 5.359 ac., +/- (erroneously shown as 5359 acres in deed recorded at Inst. No. 180008638), and being Lot #33 of Battlefield Estates as shown on plat recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Plat Book 3, Page 220. Together with the non-exclusive right to use, and subject to the rights of others, the private right of way abutting the east side of Lot 33 for Ingress and Egress from and to Route 640. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of $54,500.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than $9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com [glasserlaw.com], outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or REO Solutions, LLC, and/or Auction.com-VA, LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 231746-02, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Sep 12,19 2023 0012433022

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856 Frederick County | 856 Frederick County

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

202 BRAEBURN DRIVE
WALKERSVILLE, MD 21793

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated October 7, 2005 and recorded in Liber 5639, Folio 217 among the Land Records of Frederick County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $359,650.00, and an interest rate of 4.000%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Frederick County, 100 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701, on

September 22, 2023 AT 12:50 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $28,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, or front foot benefit payments, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, ground rent, or condo/HOA assessments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 460123)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433944

878 Stafford County

Trustee's Sale
44 Hidden Lake Drive,
Stafford, Virginia 22556
(Parcel ID: 8A 2 B 11)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated June 19, 2019, in the original principal amount of $233,007.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the **County of Stafford**, Virginia in Instrument No. 190010160, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on **October 25, 2023, at 10:00 am**, in front of the building housing the Stafford County Circuit Court, at the main entrance of the Judicial Center, 1300 Courthouse Road, Stafford, VA 22555, the property designated as Lot 11 R, Block B, Section 2, Hidden Lake Subdivision and being a resubdivision of Lots 10 and 11, Block B, Section 2, Hidden Lake Subdivision, shown on a plat recorded as Plat Map No. 040000084 in the aforesaid Clerk's Office. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of $23,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than $9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com [glasserlaw.com], outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or REO Solutions, LLC, and/or Auction.com-VA, LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 228740-08, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Sep 19,26 2023 0012433846

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YORKSHIRE TERRIERS AKC females, 9 weeks old, ready to go, tails docked, dewormed, 1st set of shots, vet checked, $2000. **717-552-8141**

620 Cats

BENGAL KITTENS - 5 available. 9 weeks old. Mother is rosette. Father is snowy white. $900 each. **Call 703-868-9781 or mccainj@si.edu**

884 City of Charlottesville

TRUSTEE SALE
1014 Coleman St Apt B,
Charlottesville, VA 22901
City of Charlottesville

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $100,000.00, dated November 17, 2004 recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the **City of Charlottesville**, Virginia, in Document No. 007688, in Book No. 1005, at Page 735, at the request of the holder of the Note, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the entrance to the Circuit Court, 315 East High Street, Charlottesville, on **October 18, 2023 at 10:00 AM** the property described in said deed, located at the above address and briefly described as:

Parcel B-2, containing 6.926 square feet, as shown on plat recorded in Deed Book 673, Page 33, with any improvements thereon

Subject to any and all covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust, if any, affecting the aforesaid property.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH: A deposit of $20,000.00 or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, cash or certified check will be required at the time of sale, but no more than $10,000.00 of cash will be accepted, with settlement within fifteen (15) days from the date of sale. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation that the borrower did not file for protection under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code prior to the sale which affects the validity of the sale, as well as to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, the sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Pursuant to the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, we advise you that this firm is a debt collector attempting to collect the indebtedness referred to herein and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.
SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C., Substitute Trustee

This is a communication from a debt collector.
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
SAMUEL I. WHITE, P.C. **(85773)**
448 Viking Drive Suite 350
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
757-457-1460 - Call Between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
or visit our website at
www.siwpc.net

Sep 18,19,20,21,22 2023 0012435311

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6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

3728 SPRIGG ST. N.
FREDERICK, MD 21704

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 31, 2005, recorded in Liber 5694, Folio 366 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $400,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 12:43 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $39,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 361619-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434587

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

11108 WORCHESTER DRIVE
NEW MARKET, MD 21774

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated July 10, 2006 and recorded in Liber 6173, Folio 0116 among the Land Records of Frederick County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $175,000.00, and an interest rate of 6.250%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Frederick County, 100 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701, on

October 6, 2023 AT 1:05 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $16,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, or front foot benefit payments, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, ground rent, or condo/HOA assessments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 436674)
This property will be sold subject to the IRS right of redemption for a period of 120 days after the sale.

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435382

856 Frederick County | 856 Frederick County

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

9629 WOODLAND ROAD
NEW MARKET, MD 21774

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated December 10, 2004 and recorded in Liber 5020, Folio 398 among the Land Records of Frederick County, Maryland modified by Loan Modification Agreement recorded on February 27, 2017, in the Land Records of Frederick County at Liber No. 11685, Folio 0412, with an original principal balance of $520,250.00, and an interest rate of 4.000%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Frederick County, 100 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701, on

October 6, 2023 AT 1:07 pm

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $63,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, or front foot benefit payments, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, ground rent, or condo/HOA assessments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 448929)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435606

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
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Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

1488 HEATHER RIDGE CT.
FREDERICK, MD 21702

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Derrick J. Smith dated March 21, 2022 and recorded in Liber 15825, folio 500 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 12:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #02-075911.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $21,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Frederick County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.

If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-002770-MD-F-2.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433960

855 Charles County | 855 Charles County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
14 OAKSIDE LANE
INDIAN HEAD, MD 20640

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated February 24, 2022, and recorded in Liber 12512, folio 264, of the land records of **CHARLES COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $240,562.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 ON,

OCTOBER 5, 2023 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 07-050488

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $23,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 4.250% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (23-101922)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012433349

856 Frederick County | 856 Frederick County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

106 W. E STREET
BRUNSWICK, MD 21716

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated January 13, 2003, recorded in Liber 3623, Folio 777 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $97,834.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 1:15 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $9,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 175894-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 19,26,Oct 3 2023 0012435394

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The Washington Post
HEALTH&SCIENCE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 · SECTION E EZ EE


JOANNA KULESZA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

More young women are getting the disease. But often they struggle to find advice on detection and treatment.

Not too young for breast cancer

BY AMANDA MORRIS, LINDSEY BEVER AND SABRINA MALHI

Kelsey Kaminky first noticed a small lump in her left breast in November. It felt like a misshapen marble. Given her young age, her doctor suspected it was a benign cyst and told her further testing wouldn't be needed.

But Kaminky, 32, couldn't shake a bad feeling. She insisted on getting a mammogram. "I advocated for myself because I knew, I just knew," she said.

The lump was breast cancer.

It's a rare diagnosis for women younger than 40, like Kaminky, who accounted for about 4 percent of invasive breast cancer diagnoses in the United States last year.

Overall, the incidence of breast cancer in women younger than 40 is low — about 25 cases per 100,000 women in 2019. By comparison, there were about 229 cases per 100,000 women in the 40-to-64-year-old age group and 462 per 100,000 in women 65 to 74.

But experiences such as Kaminky's are becoming more common.

A study published recently in JAMA Network Open showed cancers are on the rise for younger Americans under 50, particularly among women. Between 2010 and 2019, diagnoses among people age 30 to 39 increased 19.4 percent. Among those

SEE BREAST CANCER ON E6

Kelsey Kaminky, 32, prepares to have her head shaved in May after her breast cancer diagnosis. She is shown with her friend and neighbor Leah Fuentes and her son Owen at her home in Colorado.

VOICES

I almost died from sepsis. This is my story.

BY JACKIE DUDA

The terror began the morning of May 22, 2021, when the respiratory therapist inserted the ventilator tube down my throat. It was like swallowing a vacuum cleaner hose. Paralytic drugs were injected to keep me from instinctively yanking it out.

I futilely tried to blink out an SOS and searched for my husband with my eyes. It felt like I was trapped behind soundproof glass. Disembodied voices murmured above me as I lay on an emergency room gurney.

"Surgery . . . and a colostomy . . . perhaps a tracheotomy," I heard. There was talk of sending me to a trauma center 75 miles away.

Was I dying?

"Her blood pressure is dropping."

"How long to Baltimore?"

"An hour twenty."

"She'll never make that, call a pilot."

And then, mercifully, everything went black. It was only the beginning of my sepsis journey.

What is sepsis?

Sepsis is an extreme immune system response to an infection — a medical domino effect in which the final stage, septic shock, can be organ failure and death.

SEE SEPSIS ON E5

After years of fatigue, her case inspired breakthrough

BY BRIAN VASTAG

Amanda Twinam's journey to understand her decades-long fatigue began with a breast cancer diagnosis at age 28. Twinam underwent a mastectomy before enduring chemotherapy. The medicines made her sick and triggered seizures, which eventually brought her to a rheumatologist.

That doctor found a marker for autoimmune diseases in Twinam's blood. And yet, none of the proposed diagnoses fully fit. "Fatigue was my primary complaint, sometimes my only complaint," says Twinam, who'd had a bout of suspected mononucleosis in high school that left her exhausted for months. "But no one knew what to do."

In 2015, after further testing, Twinam, now 44, was found to carry a genetic cancer disorder, Li-Fraumeni syndrome. A second breast cancer diagnosis shortly followed, and Twinam underwent another mastectomy. But Twinam knew that something else was wrong.

As she moved into her 40s, she was having increasing trouble standing and walking. The Albany, N.Y., lawyer scaled back to part-time work, as she couldn't keep up with her legal cases while raising a young daughter.

"I was a decreasingly functional human and had no great explanation for it,

SEE FATIGUE ON E4

Just like dogs, wolves may take food cues from watching people

BY LINDSEY BEVER

Wolves and their domesticated counterparts — dogs — do not rely on only their snouts when searching for a meal. A new study shows that both animals are better able to find food when they see where their treats have been hidden, with wolves having greater success.

The study, published last Wednesday in PLOS One, supports decades of research demonstrating that dogs use social cues from humans to find food.

It also corroborates previous findings that wolves, at least those that are intensely socialized with humans, can also use that information, making them similar to dogs in that way, said Friederike Range, associate professor at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna, and senior author of the study. This confirmation, she said, "is great since we

SEE WOLVES ON E2

ASTRONOMY
NASA discovers hints of an ocean on a distant planet many light-years from Earth. E2


NASA; ESA; CSA; JOSEPH OLMSTED/STSCI

ALZHEIMER'S
Research indicates that a healthy diet and exercise can lower dementia risk. E3

EXERCISE
Swimming in cool water may have antidepressant effects that boost energy and mood. E4

HIDDEN PLANET



SIMA DIAB FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A damaged cafe on the edge of a cliff in Moulay Brahim, Morocco. A 6.8-magnitude earthquake hit the North African country on Sept. 8, killing at least 2,901 people and injuring thousands more. It was the worst temblor to hit Morocco in more than 100 years.

What sparks 'earthquake lights'?

Generated by plate tectonic movements, the phenomena can appear as steady glows and streamers

BY KASHA PATEL

Lightning bolts. A strange glow. Unusual flashes.

Social media users reported odd lights in the sky near the time of Morocco's Sept. 8 earthquake, which has taken at least 2,901 lives and injured thousands more.

While verifying the social media posts is difficult, scientists say earthquakes can produce various light phenomena in our atmosphere — signaling electric changes beneath the surface.

"The [Morocco] earthquake happened at nighttime," said geophysicist Friedemann Freund. "The condition for earthquake lights to be seen by people and maybe even recorded by cameras would be relatively high."

Several different light phenomena can be associated with earthquakes. Lightning is common, although it's not your typical bolts during a thunderstorm. Earthquake lightning travels from ground to cloud, activated by electric charges associated with seismic activity within the earth. Other lights are also clearly associated with the artificial man-made lighting sources, such as electric poles or lamps.

But the "earthquake lights" that Freund is referring to are generated by an earthquake's plate tectonic movement. They can appear as steady glows, balls of light, streamers or sheet lightning, according to the United States Geological Survey.

Freund explains that our planet is electrically conductive: When we plug into a wall, we ground those electric currents to Earth. During an earthquake, seismic or tectonic forces deform rocks and minerals in Earth's crust, which allow electric currents to flow.

These electric charges accumulate so much on Earth's surface and eventually produce electric discharges — positively charged particles in the rocks attract negatively charged particles in Earth's uppermost atmosphere. They can produce light overhead.

"If it was at night, it would be so bright that you can read the newspaper," said Freund, who has previously published studies on earthquakes and earthquake lights. The color of the light depends on the type of excited atom in the atmosphere. Oxygen molecules could give a reddish or greenish light, but a mixture would produce a bright yellow light.

As electric charges are changing on the surface and in the air, Freund said people and animals can also sometimes get headaches — explaining some odd animal behavior right before an earthquake occurs. People could also see their hair stand up or feel a tickling sensation in their skin.

Lab experiments confirm voltage jumps when materials are put under pressure and crack, much like during an earthquake.

"If these earthquake lights happen, then this is an indication that stresses are building up, which would possibly lead to a mechanical phenomenon that we call an earthquake," said Freund, who worked at NASA for 30 years and is now a senior research scientist at the SETI Institute.

But, he added, "the connection is not totally guaranteed."

> *"If it was at night, it would be so bright that you can read the newspaper."*
>
> **Geophysicist Friedemann Freund**

Some geophysicists debate whether earthquake lights are actually linked to seismic activity or have a different explanation, such as sparking an electrical system. Seismologist John Ebel said he thinks earthquake lights are real because he has read reports from the 1700s — before electrical systems were in place.

Ebel said most earthquakes do not have reports of earthquake lights, but that could have several explanations. For one, he said a lot of earthquakes happen during the day, so people probably wouldn't see the dim lights. Also, many earthquakes are centered from deep underground, but no lights have been reported with those, either.

But studying when earthquake lights occur in relation to the tremble could help researchers better anticipate these fatal events. Most reports are given at the time of an earthquake — people wake up, see a flash and the earth is shaking.

If there were documentation that earthquake lights occurred before the event, then researchers could set up instrumentation near major fault lines to look for them as a warning sign.

"We have no direct way to measure the pulses within the Earth," said Ebel, a professor of geophysics at Boston College. "If we could find some phenomenon that gives us information about the pressure build up in the Earth before the earthquake, that may help us to predict earthquakes."

Dogs, wolves remember where you hid their food

WOLVES FROM E1

need to make sure that we get the same results across different contexts and situations."

The study also showed that wolves were more persistent in their search.

"If you think about wolves, they are hunters — and they're actually not so successful so they have to be persistent to bring down prey," Range said. "Dogs, on the other hand, even if you think about free-ranging dogs that have to fend for themselves, they very often live close to humans so there's food offered at predictable times. So there might have been some relaxation during domestication, meaning dogs don't need to be so persistent anymore."

Animals seemed to use visual prompts

In three separate experiments from 2009 to 2014, the researchers observed nine wolves and eight mongrel dogs search for food hidden by humans throughout a testing enclosure. The animals were able to watch as food was hidden in more than 130 possible locations, and then were let loose to retrieve their rewards.

Animals in the control group did not see the caches as they were hidden and had to rely only on scent.

The animals that watched the hiding process moved faster, traveled shorter distances before finding each cache and found more caches.

"Sense of smell is very important, but it costs a lot of energy to use the nose — at least, that's what we see with our animals," Range said. "It seems in most situations, if they have a visual cue, they will use a visual cue first."



ISTOCK

A male Mexican wolf. The study showed that wolves were more persistent in their search.

Wolves also took cues from humans

It's not surprising that dogs take their cues from humans, experts say.

"In dogs, we've counted on them watching our behaviors. It's part of how they were domesticated," said Liz Stelow, chief of service at the University of California at Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, who was not involved in the study. "They watch our behaviors very intensely, and they also are often motivated by food. So if our behaviors have something to do with food, I think they do pay special attention."

It is interesting that the wolves responded to humans in the same way as the dogs, "although it seems like an evolutionary intelligent thing to do," said Katherine Houpt, emeritus professor at the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, who was not involved in the study. "If you can remember where the food was, no matter who hid it — whether it was a human, another wolf or a cougar — you're more likely to survive."

The question, Houpt said, is whether this trait is inherited or learned. The wolves in the study were raised by humans, she said, and are more likely to follow human gestures than wild ones.

Other study limitations include a small sample size and, for the wolves, the environment. The testing enclosure was similar to what domesticated dogs are accustomed to, but wolves live in the wild where they are hunting — not simply finding — food, Stelow said.

"I think the study probably says more about dogs, overall, than it does about wolves," she said.

SCIENCE NEWS

A large exoplanet may be covered in an ocean, but NASA scientists are unsure it supports life

BY ELLEN FRANCIS

Scientists have made a new discovery that hints at a possible water ocean on a massive planet many lights-years away from Earth, although it is unclear if it could support life, according to NASA.

Researchers made the announcement after examining data from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, gazing more than 100 light-years from Earth at an exoplanet — or a planet beyond our solar system — in the constellation Leo that goes by the name K2-18 b and is 8.6 times as massive as our planet.

The astronomers, led by the University of Cambridge, found methane and carbon dioxide in the atmosphere of K2-18 b, results that are "consistent with an ocean-covered surface underneath a hydrogen-rich atmosphere," the university said.

"The discovery provides a glimpse into a planet unlike anything else in our Solar System, and raises interesting prospects about potentially habitable worlds elsewhere in the Universe," it said last week.

NASA said the findings — including "the abundance of methane and carbon dioxide, and shortage of ammonia" — support the hypothesis that the exoplanet might be covered in ocean.

The researchers said they also detected "another, weaker, signal" that could indicate the molecule called dimethyl sulfide (DMS), raising the prospect of biological activity on K2-18 b. On Earth, this molecule is produced only by life, emitted from phytoplankton in marine environments, NASA says.

But the DMS detection is yet to be confirmed, and the team will follow up with further observations from the Webb telescope, the space agency added.

The astronomers noted that their findings did not necessarily mean the planet could support life: Its large size means its interior could contain a large mantle of high-pressure ice, like Neptune, but with a thinner hydrogen-rich atmosphere and an ocean surface, they said. And the ocean might be too hot to be habitable.

It's not the first time astronomers have seen signs of water on other planets. Evidence of water vapor has previously been found on an exoplanet roughly the size of Neptune about 120 light-years away.

Still, they described the new revelations as a gateway to more insight on planets beyond Earth.

NASA said the prospect that K2-18 b could be a "Hycean" exoplanet, or an ocean world, was "intriguing," as some astronomers believe such planets are promising environments to search for evidence of life on exoplanets.

"Our findings underscore the importance of considering diverse habitable environments in the search for life elsewhere," said astrophysicist Nikku Madhusudhan of Cambridge's Institute of Astronomy, the lead author of the study.

K2-18 b, more than twice as large as Earth, was discovered in 2015 sitting in its star's "habitable zone," a range that is neither too hot nor too cold to host liquid water.

The first insight into the planet's atmospheric properties came from NASA's Hubble Space Telescope, but the technology of its successor, the Webb telescope, including extended wavelength range and "unprecedented sensitivity," have made the latest detections possible, Madhusudhan said.

The $10 billion Webb telescope has peered deeper into space and delivered new observations of faraway galaxies since its launch in December 2021.

"These results are the product of just two observations of K2-18 b, with many more on the way," said co-author and researcher Savvas Constantinou of Cambridge.



NASA; ESA; CSA; JOSEPH OLMSTED/STSCI

An illustration of what exoplanet K2-18 b may look like.

SCIENCE SCAN

POLLUTION

A 'green nudge' helped dramatically cut waste of single-use plastic cutlery in China, study says

BY ERIN BLAKEMORE

Pollution and climate change fueled by disposable plastics is a scourge of modern times — but recent research suggests a few simple changes can push people to use fewer single-use plastic utensils.

Writing in the journal Science, Chinese researchers report on how incorporating "green nudges" into a popular Chinese online food delivery service dramatically cut single-use cutlery orders. The nudges, if applied at a larger scale, could cut both plastic waste and deforestation, the scientists say.

China is the world's largest producer and user of single-use cutlery, with Chinese customers of food delivery services using more than 50 million sets of single-use cutlery each day that were not "adequately recycled or disposed of," the researchers write.

In response to new regulations designed to quell disposable cutlery waste, the Chinese online food platform Ele.me — similar to UberEats or DoorDash in the United States — began asking consumers whether they wanted cutlery with their orders, instead of automatically including it.

The researchers worked with Ele.me's parent company, Alibaba, to evaluate the effectiveness of this initiative, which defaulted to zero cutlery and also allowed users to earn points that could be collected and redeemed for planting a tree in the Chinese desert.

Reducing single-use cutlery with green nudges: Evidence from China's food-delivery industry

Science

They found that no-cutlery orders increased "significantly" — 648 percent — after the app change. The "nudges" didn't harm business performance or the total number of orders.

Different groups responded differently to the app's cutlery choices. Women, people over age 24 and infrequent app users were more likely to respond to the nudges, while people with more expensive cellphones or who bought more expensive meals responded more often.

Over 27 months of study, the researchers write, the nudges cut the number of cutlery sets delivered by 225.33 million, preventing 4,506.52 metric tons of waste and saving the equivalent of 56,333 trees.

If applied nationwide, the researchers write, such changes could make a massive difference.

"We think that the private sector and platform companies can play a powerful role in promoting prosocial behaviors among their customers," the researchers write. "Better alignment between their corporate social responsibilities and ecofriendly initiatives could bring about far-reaching impacts to our planet."

HEALTH & SCIENCE

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BIG NUMBER

3

times greater

The number of U.S. adults who died of heart disease and whose death record cited obesity as a contributing factor was three times greater in 2020 than in 1999, according to research published in the Journal of the American Heart Association. The finding came from analysis of death certificates in a database maintained by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. There were 281,135 deaths from heart disease linked to obesity in that time range, the researchers said, and the death rate tripled from 2.2 deaths per 100,000 people to 6.6 deaths per 100,000. The increase in obesity-related deaths contrasted with a steady decline (nearly 18 percent) in heart disease deaths overall from 1999 to 2020. The mortality rate from heart disease related to obesity was higher among the Black population than among any other racial group. Overall, the deaths also were more common among men than women, although Black women had a slightly higher mortality rate than Black men. Obesity, which is a major risk factor for heart disease, affects about 115 million people in the United States — about 42 percent of adults and 20 percent of children, according to the CDC. The study noted that the adult percentage has risen by nearly 10 percent in the past decade. Medical experts say obesity can lead to heart disease in several ways, including sparking a rise in blood pressure, causing a spike in bad cholesterol and a lowering of good cholesterol levels, increasing the chance of developing diabetes and leading to a buildup of fatty material in arteries. The researchers found that ischemic heart disease (narrowed arteries) and high blood pressure were the most common causes of obesity-related heart disease deaths in the two decades they tracked.

— Linda Searing

HEALTH NEWS

Food recalls for rocks, insects and other types of unappetizing contamination aren't unusual

BY JONEL ALECCIA

Rocks in Trader Joe's cookies. Insects in its broccoli-cheese soup. Pieces of plastic in Banquet frozen chicken strips.

In recent weeks, U.S. consumers have seen high-profile food recalls for an unappetizing reason: They're contaminated with foreign objects that have no place on a dinner plate. And while no one wants to bite down on stainless steel in peanut butter or bone fragments in smoked sausage, this type of contamination is one of the top reasons for food recalls in the United States.

Food safety experts and federal agencies use the terms "extraneous" or "foreign" materials to describe things such as metal fragments, rubber gaskets and bits of bugs that somehow make it into packaged goods.

"Extraneous materials" triggered nine recalls in 2022 of more than 477,000 pounds of food regulated by the Agriculture Department's Food Safety and Inspection Service — triple the number of recalls tied to food contaminated with E. coli bacteria.

And the size of recalls can reach into the millions: In 2019, the Agriculture Department reported 34 recalls of more than 16 million pounds of food, spurred in large part by a giant recall of nearly 12 million pounds of Tyson chicken strips tainted with pieces of metal.

Plastic pieces from frayed conveyor belts, wood shards from produce pallets, metal shavings or wire from machinery are all common. So are rocks, sticks and bugs that can make it from the field to the factory.

Some contamination may even be expected, the Food and Drug Administration acknowledges in a handbook.

"It is economically impractical to grow, harvest or process raw products that are totally free of nonhazardous, naturally occurring, unavoidable defects," the agency writes.

Both the Agriculture Department and FDA ask companies to promptly notify them when food is potentially contaminated with objects that may harm consumers. The agencies then determine whether recalls are necessary. Most recalls are voluntary and initiated by the companies, although the agencies can request or mandate the action.

Regulators said the Banquet issue was discovered when someone reported an oral injury after eating chicken strips. ConAgra Brands, which owns Banquet, declined to comment beyond the firm's news release. Trader Joe's wouldn't elaborate on how material got into the foods that led to its recent recalls.

Detection of unwanted objects has vastly improved in the past several years, said Keith Belk, director of the Center for Meat Safety and Quality at Colorado State University. Large manufacturers use magnets, metal detectors, X-ray devices and other technology to find unwanted materials in their products.

Still, "they're going to miss things," Belk said.

Those things have included pieces of a gray nitrile glove that forced the recall of nearly 6,400 pounds of chicken tortilla soup in 2021 and pieces of copper wire that led to recall of nearly 5,800 pounds of frozen beef shepherd's pie in 2022.

There are also two notorious examples from 2017: "extraneous golf ball materials" that triggered a recall of frozen hash browns and a dead bat found in bagged salad that led the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to recommend rabies treatment for two people.

In recent years, firms have become increasingly cautious and are recalling products more frequently than before, said Nathan Mirdamadi, a consultant with Commercial Food Sanitation, which advises the industry about food safety.

— Associated Press

HEALTH SCAN

GERONTOLOGY

Longevity more likely for women who maintain a stable body weight over decades, study says

BY ERIN BLAKEMORE

Association of Later-Life Weight Changes With Survival to Ages 90, 95, and 100: The Women's Health Initiative

Journals of Gerontology: Series A

Women who live to age 90, 95 or even 100 experience what's known as "exceptional longevity." An analysis published last month found one factor linking those long lives: maintaining a stable body weight over decades.

The study, published in the Journals of Gerontology: Series A, looked at data about 54,437 women from the Women's Health Initiative, a long-term study that began in the 1990s. The women studied were born on or before Feb. 19, 1932, and the researchers looked at their weight when they began the program, in Year 3, and in Year 10 of the program, then followed up on their survival status as of Feb. 19, 2022.

They found that the women whose body weight stayed stable over the years had 1.2 and 2 times the odds of surviving to 90 and beyond than those who lost weight.

Women who lost 5 percent or more of their body weight over the first three years studied had 33 percent lower odds of surviving to 90, 35 percent lower odds of surviving to 95 and 38 percent lower odds of surviving to 100 than their counterparts whose weight remained stable.

One factor associated with longer lives was whether a woman had intentionally lost weight. Those who unintentionally dropped pounds had 51 percent lower odds of survival to age 90 compared with others in the study. The researchers write that gaining weight over the study period "was not significantly associated with survival" to an extended age.

The study doesn't just suggest that weight stability might be able to predict longevity, the researchers write. They also note that "blanket recommendations for weight loss in older women are unlikely to lead to better survival to advanced ages." More research needs to be done, they write, especially to tease out the connections between health problems and weight loss and among a more diverse racial and ethnic population.

FROM CONSUMER REPORTS

Healthy diet may lower dementia risk

BY JANET LEE



ISTOCK

Doing puzzles, playing memory-boosting games, taking classes and reading are activities that we often turn to for help keeping our brains sharp. But research is showing that what you eat, how often you exercise and the type of exercise you do can help lower your risk of dementia to a greater extent than previously thought.

Although more studies are needed, "there's a lot of data that suggests exercise and diet are good for the brain and can prevent or help slow down" cognitive changes, says Jeffrey Burns, co-director of the University of Kansas Alzheimer's Disease Research Center in Fairway.

And living a healthy lifestyle can produce brain benefits no matter what your age.

The big diet picture

If you're already eating in a way that protects your heart — plenty of whole grains, vegetables, and fruit, and little saturated fat, sodium and ultra-processed "junk" foods — there's good news: You're also protecting your brain. A healthy cardiovascular system keeps blood vessels open, allowing good blood flow to the brain and reducing the risk of high blood pressure, stroke and dementia.

Research suggests that two specific dietary approaches — the Mediterranean diet and the MIND diet (the Mediterranean-DASH Intervention for Neurodegenerative Delay, essentially a combo of two heart-healthy eating plans) — may help stave off cognitive decline. Both diets rely on eating mostly plant foods (fruits, vegetables, whole grains, beans, nuts), olive oil, fish and poultry. The main difference between the two is that the MIND diet emphasizes specific fruits and vegetables, such as berries and leafy greens.

Studies show that people who most closely follow either diet have a reduced risk of dementia compared with those who don't. For example, people eating the Mediterranean way had a 23 percent lower risk of dementia in a nine-year study of more than 60,000 men and women published this year in BMC Medicine.

The original MIND diet research, published in 2015 by researchers at Rush University in Chicago and still ongoing, found that older adults who adhered most closely to the diet had a 53 percent lower risk of developing Alzheimer's disease. Even those who followed the MIND diet moderately well saw a 35 percent reduced risk.

Brain-boosting foods

"Simply focusing on one food won't magically improve cognitive functioning," says Puja Agarwal, an assistant professor at the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center. "We found that it's a combination of foods that are associated more with overall brain health." Still, within the context of a healthy diet, including the following on your plate regularly may give your brain some extra protection.

Healthy fats: The mono- and polyunsaturated fats found in foods such as avocados, olives, nuts, seeds and olive oil protect against heart disease and stroke, both risk factors for Alzheimer's disease. Omega-3 fatty acids, a type of polyunsaturated fat found in seafood, as well as walnuts and chia and flax seeds, may slow brain aging.

"Some studies show consuming omega-3 fatty acids [in food] may help lower levels of beta-amyloid, a protein that forms damaging clumps in the brains of people with Alzheimer's disease," says Lauren J. Gleason, an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Chicago Medicine.

Berries: All berries contain flavonoids, which are powerful antioxidant compounds. A large 2021 study, published in Neurology, found that people who had the highest intake of flavonoids were 19 percent less likely to self-report a decline in cognitive function than those who ate fewer flavonoid-rich foods. Berries in particular appear to protect brain cells from damaging oxidative stress and help boost memory, Gleason says. (Tea and dark chocolate also have flavonoids.)

Leafy greens: "Green leafy vegetables are powerhouse, nutrient-dense foods," Agarwal says. "They have carotenoids, vitamin K and flavonoids, which have anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties." Agarwal led a recent MIND diet study that found people who ate seven or more servings of leafy greens (a half-cup cooked or 1 cup raw) a week had amyloid plaque levels similar to people who were 19 years younger.

Beans: Legumes are rich in fiber. Per (cooked) cup, lentils have 16 grams, chickpeas about 13 grams and kidney beans 11 grams. (The daily value is 28 grams.) A 2022 study of older people in the American Journal of Medicine found that as fiber intake increased, so did scores on a brain function test that measured information processing, attention and memory. (Fruits, vegetables and whole grains are other good sources of fiber.) "Getting adequate fiber also helps you maintain a healthy weight, balances blood sugar levels, and improves heart health, all of which are linked with cognitive health," Gleason says.

Fiber may help the brain in an unusual way. It supports a healthy microbiome, the collection of good bacteria that lives in your digestive system. Having enough of these good bacteria is crucial because their activity creates short-chain fatty acids that communicate with the rest of the body, including the brain. Some data shows that people with Alzheimer's disease have a different microbiome makeup than those who don't have it, Burns says. Researchers are looking into whether the balance of bacteria in the gut is a cause or a result of the disease. If it's a cause, then changing your microbiome may be beneficial.

Eggs: The yolks are rich in choline, a nutrient that's important for memory and other brain functions. In a 2019 study involving almost 500 men, published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, every 50 milligram intake per day of a type of choline called phosphatidylcholine was linked to a 10 percent decrease in dementia risk. Eggs were the main source of phosphatidylcholine in the men's diet. A large egg has 168 mg of choline, about 70 percent of which is phosphatidylcholine.

Foods to avoid

You also want to be sure to limit foods that have been shown to hinder cognitive health. One way to do this is to cut back on highly processed foods. These are foods that have ingredients such as high-fructose corn syrup, emulsifiers, colors, flavors and preservatives, or are high in added sugars or sodium. Soda, packaged bread and baked goods, sugary cereals, and deli meats are examples.

Getting just 20 percent of calories from highly processed foods was linked to a 28 percent faster rate of cognitive decline compared with eating less. That's according to an eight-year study of more than 10,000 men and women ages 35 to 74, published in 2023 in JAMA Neurology.

Another study, published in the journal Neurology, found that people 55 and older who ate a highly processed diet were about 25 percent more likely to develop dementia than those who ate little of these foods.

But there was also good news: Those who reduced their intake of highly processed foods by 10 percent during the 10-year study were 19 percent less likely to get dementia.

How exercise helps

Regular physical activity may improve brain health in numerous ways, not least of which is reducing risk factors for dementia, such as diabetes and heart disease. A 2023 analysis of 21 studies, published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, concluded that exercise (both aerobic and strength training) improved cognitive function in older adults regardless of their current cognitive status. Researchers speculate that physical activity helps by encouraging the growth of new neurons and blood vessels in the brain, fighting inflammation, and improving plasticity, the brain's ability to change and adapt.

The World Health Organization recommends getting 150 to 300 minutes of aerobic exercise — such as walking, cycling or swimming — a week and two or more strength-training sessions.

"Activities that involve learning a specific sequence of movement may be particularly beneficial in slowing progression to dementia in someone who has mild cognitive impairment," Gleason says. A small study of older adults with this condition, published in 2020 in the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease, found that those who did choreographed aerobic dances (an hour twice weekly for 12 weeks) improved verbal recognition memory more than those who did physical therapy exercises. Activities such as dancing and tai chi also challenge balance, a skill that declines with aging and the onset of dementia.

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Her tireless battle against fatigue inspired scientific gains

FATIGUE FROM E1

which made me feel crazy," she says. "Doctors didn't "know what to do with me." So Twinam undertook a years-long journey to understand her continuing fatigue, neuropathy, muscle weakness and other problems.

Her dogged efforts led to a new scientific discovery at the National Institutes of Health and a promising new line of research that may end up helping many other people with chronically fatiguing illnesses, possibly including long covid.

"We're very excited about trying" drugs to treat the problem identified in Twinam, said Paul Hwang, an NIH researcher who led the work.

The red flags that Twinam had an unrecognized chronic illness began after her suspected case of mono in high school. She says she feels she never fully recovered. One big tell: In college, after exercising, Twinam would not experience an endorphin rush. Instead, she told her friends she "felt like garbage."

Between her two breast cancers, Twinam decided to go back to school for a master's degree in public health. She wanted to understand biostatistics on the path to understanding herself.

"I was genuinely more excited when I got a 100 on a biology midterm than when I passed the bar," she says.

In 2016, she was intrigued by a journal article about Li-Fraumeni syndrome written by Hwang. The article described problems with mitochondria — the famous powerhouses of cellular biology, small tubelike structures inside cells that produce the energy we need to live.

In people with this cancer syndrome, Hwang's lab had found that mitochondria produce too much energy, which cancer cells gobble up as they metastasize. Twinam wondered whether her specific version of Li-Fraumeni syndrome could lead to the opposite problem, too little energy?

Twinam began a message to Hwang that proved pivotal: "I read with interest your recent article on inhibiting mitochondrial respiration in a mouse model of Li-Fraumeni Syndrome."

"I had zero expectations," Twinam says. "Here's me sending an email to this fancy science researcher who isn't going to give me the time of day."

Hwang, who runs a laboratory at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, responded the next day. He wrote: "Yes, I agree with you, it is possible that [your version of Li Fraumeni Syndrome] may be altering metabolism and causing your fatigue symptoms."

Hwang was wrong — Twinam's energy problems had nothing to do with Li-Fraumeni syndrome. But it would take Hwang and colleagues years of benchwork, including making genetically modified "Amanda mice," to understand this.

"Amanda showed up and she challenged us," says Hwang during an interview in his office. "So we dug."

Hwang brought Twinam to Bethesda in 2017. During a battery of tests, a curious result popped up. Twinam's calf muscle took a long time to replenish an energy-carrying molecule after a short exercise session. In other patients with Li-Fraumeni syndrome, this molecule regenerates in an average of 35 seconds. In Twinam, it took 80 seconds.

"We never see it that delayed," Hwang says.

Puzzled, Hwang flew Twinam's brother and father to Maryland, as they both also carried a gene for Li-Fraumeni. But on the energy-production test, the two men showed quick energy rebound, unlike Amanda. Neither of them had ever complained of serious fatigue, either.

Amanda was the outlier.

Hwang now had strong evidence that Twinam's energy problems — both at the cellular and the human level — were caused by something other than Li-Fraumeni. But what?

Around the same time, in 2017, Hwang received another serendipitous correspondence. NIH researcher Brian Walitt had heard Hwang was studying energy production inside mitochondria.

Walitt was interested because he was orchestrating an intensive study on a small number of inpatients at NIH's research hospital who were diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome, also known as myalgic encephalomyelitis or ME/CFS. (I was a patient in this study and Hwang also used my data in his research.)

This contact sparked Hwang's curiosity: What if this unusual cancer syndrome patient also had an illness, such as ME/CFS, that causes chronic fatigue?

Hwang began a detailed biochemical search. He found that skin cells taken from Twinam appeared to be churning out an excess of a protein called WASF3. Zooming inside Twinam's mitochondria, Hwang and colleagues eventually saw something stunning: Like a stick jammed into bicycle spokes, the overabundant protein was literally gumming up the gears of energy production.

"It's really striking," Hwang says.

Mitochondria make energy by a process called respiration, spinning oxygen and glucose into energy-carrying molecules. At the center of this chemical chain reaction is an 800-pound biochemical gorilla called the supercomplex.

The protein Twinam made too much of? It rudely jams up the supercomplex. "It's making this whole thing disassemble," Hwang says. "It's literally falling apart."

Extensive lab work confirmed and extended the finding. In dishes of cells, amping up WASF3 turned down cellular energy production. Tamping it down led to more energy. Mice bred to make too much of the protein pooped out quickly, like Twinam does, and will walk on a treadmill about half as long as normal mice.

A final serendipity broadened Hwang's research from a single patient to an entire population of sick people: He obtained muscle tissue from Walitt's ME/CFS patients.

Nine out of 14 had similar overabundance of WASF3 as Twinam, and, on average, the group's levels of this protein were higher than that of healthy volunteers. Although the sample size is small, the finding suggests that this energy-squashing problem is widespread in ME/CFS.

The research triggered by Twinam culminated in August with a publication from Hwang and colleagues in the journal PNAS. Scientists in the small field of ME/CFS research are excited by the discovery, which points to a potential — and badly needed — treatment strategy.

"It was done very elegantly," says Mady Hornig, who also studies ME/CFS as a physician-researcher at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. "It's not very common that we do all of these . . . steps, having doctors who are really persistent about what is happening with one individual and applying a scientific lens."

ME/CFS is common — up to 2.5 million Americans have it, according to a 2015 Institute of Medicine Report — but also commonly misunderstood.

Research funding has been scarce. Diagnosis is often delayed or never arrives. The pandemic has dramatically added to the ranks of people with ME/CFS, as studies find that up to half of people with long covid qualify for that diagnosis. There are no blood tests to identify the disorder, no treatments approved by the Food and Drug Administration, let alone a cure. Up to a quarter of all ME/CFS patients are bed bound.

For Hwang, developing a treatment for the illness is now "what keeps me going." His small laboratory, just four scientists, is planning a clinical trial with a drug that recently came onto the market for another disease.

"Amazing findings in medicine are sometimes based on one patient," he says.

As for Twinam, after decades of feeling ill with no diagnosis that ever made sense, she believes her own story has finally been legitimized, and in a major scientific journal at that.

"There's this difference between cancer and chronic fatigue syndrome," a diagnosis her rheumatologist has finally added to her file, she says. "Everybody believes you when you have cancer. You joke about having a 'cancer card' to get off from doing things. No one is handing out CFS cards. I can finally say, 'It's not psychological. I'm not a malingerer.' We now have a scientific explanation."





PHOTOS BY ASHLEY BROWN

LEFT: Amanda Twinam and her daughter, Paige. RIGHT: Twinam with Paige and husband Matthew.

"Amazing findings in medicine are sometimes based on one patient."

Paul Hwang, an NIH researcher

Why swimming or showering in cool water can boost your mood and energy

Ask A Doctor

RICHARD A. FRIEDMAN

Q: *I keep hearing about the benefits of swimming in cold water. Is it actually good for you?*

A: There is intriguing preliminary evidence that swimming in cold water may have antidepressant effects.

One study, conducted in Britain in 2020, reported that swimming in the cold ocean reduced depressed mood up to 10 times as much as it did in a group of controls who watched the swimmers from the beach.

And a separate case report found that a woman with treatment-resistant depression experienced significant improvement in her depressive symptoms after swimming in cold seawater once a week.

But studies about the mental health benefits of cold water swimming tend to involve swimming with other people, so it's hard to know whether it's the socializing with others — or the swimming itself — that provides most of the observed antidepressant effect.

Still, cold water exposure has arousing and stimulating effects, and it appears to increase many substances that we know are involved in regulating mood. For example, studies that immerse healthy subjects in cold water show a spike in the stress hormones cortisol and norepinephrine. This is the same response that humans and animals have to danger and threat, and it is part of our hard-wired flight or fight reflex that affords enormous survival advantage.

Also, exposure to cold water causes release of endorphin and dopamine, which are neurotransmitters that convey a sense of pleasure.

I'm familiar with this feeling. On a recent hot night, I ran off to a large outdoor pool in Manhattan that was full of delightfully cool water. It was initially stimulating, but soon after I starting swimming, I was overtaken by a feeling of tranquil euphoria probably brought about, in part, by an endorphin rush in my brain.

And on one recent weekend, I swam in a 1.3-mile open-water race in Provincetown, Mass., with my husband. I've done it 23 times before — that's how great the experience is. It's challenging in unpredictable ways each time, but one thing is constant: The rapture of swimming in cool water.

As a psychiatrist and avid swimmer, I've probably prescribed more exercise than antidepressants over the years. And since swimming is such a wonderful form of aerobic exercise that's easy on the joints, I often encourage my patients to try it. And if you don't live near a lake or ocean or have access to a swimming pool, a cool shower can have similar effects.

How cold does the water need to be?

The good news is that you don't have to risk a polar plunge to reap the potential benefits of cold water. Cold water is typically defined as water below 60 degrees, which is very cold indeed. But we know that cool water, say about 70 degrees, can effectively trigger the "diving reflex" and increase parasympathetic activity, which is calming.

Furthermore, exposure to just modestly chilly water, between 60 and 70 degrees, has been shown to boost dopamine and endorphin levels. You can easily achieve this in your shower at home, by gradually turning down the hot water and slowly habituating yourself to cooler water over a week or so.

There is even preliminary evidence that adapting to progressively cooler showers has antidepressant effects.

It might also, like cold immersion, promote something we call cross-adaptation and make you less stressed in response to other adverse situations.

For example, one study of healthy young men who had been habituated to cold water showed lower stress responses to exercising in a low-oxygen situation, which is unpleasant and hard, than those who had not been previously exposed to cold water.

What are the risks?

Contrary to what you may have heard from cold water enthusiasts, cold water plunges are definitely not for everyone and they are not without risk. One major reason is that cold water exposure activates both components of our autonomic nervous system, which have opposing effects.

How you enter the water matters. If you enter the water without getting your face wet, it triggers the sympathetic system, which increases heart rate and blood pressure, sometimes dramatically. In contrast, when cold water hits your face, you get the diving reflex, which activates the parasympathetic system via the vagus nerve, which lowers heart rate and slows things down.

The net effect of these two competing neural reflexes is highly variable. In some individuals with known or perhaps covert heart disease, it can trigger a potentially fatal cardiac arrhythmia — even in apparently young healthy people.

Some people respond immediately to cold water immersion with cold shock, which involves uncontrollable hyperventilation, fatigue, disorientation and can end in drowning. Of course, there is also the risk of hypothermia with prolonged exposure to cold water, so people should be mindful of these potential risks before plunging into frigid water.

The notion that cold water has healing properties is quite old.

In 400 B.C., Hippocrates recommended cold water therapy to allay lassitude. More recently, there's been a lot of enthusiasm about the supposed physical and mental health benefits of cold water immersion. Many of the claims — that a frigid plunge can help you say goodbye to depression, chronic pain of all sorts and turn the clock back on aging — are unproven and well ahead of the science.

But as scorching heat becomes more common — with some parts of the country enduring it year-round — there's another compelling reason to head for the water: It's not only a powerful way to boost mood, energy and cognitive function but also a refreshing and fast way to cool off.



CHELSEA CONRAD/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

Richard A. Friedman is a professor of clinical psychiatry and director of the Psychopharmacology Clinic at Weill Cornell Medical College. Trisha Pasricha will return soon.

WELL+BEING

Sepsis put me in an ICU. My recovery was a long process.

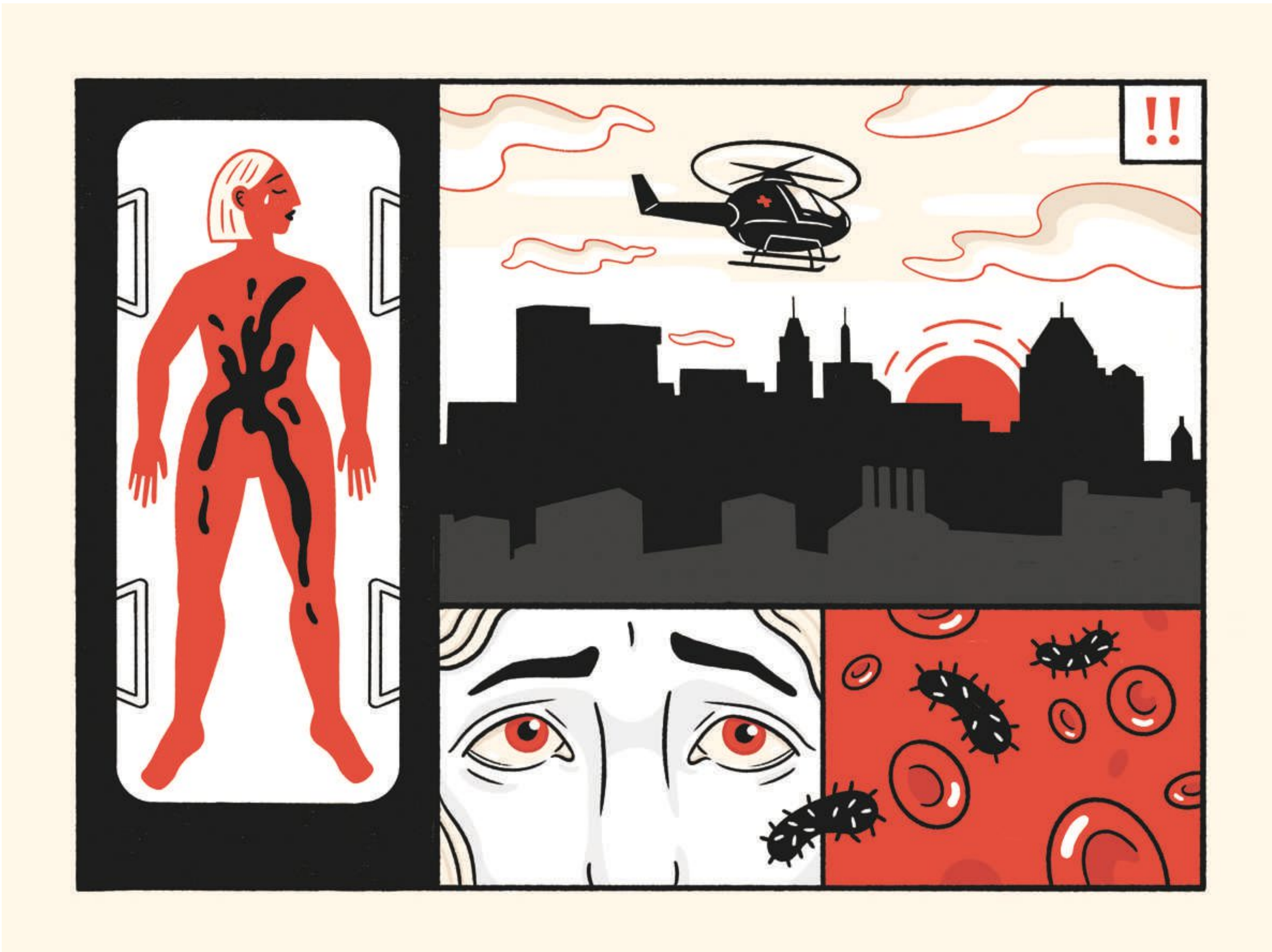
SEPSIS FROM E1

It's most likely to develop from lung, urinary tract, skin or gastrointestinal infections but can also stem from viral infections, including the flu, covid-19 or fungal infections. Worldwide, 11 million people die of sepsis annually, accounting for almost 20 percent of all global deaths, according to the World Health Organization. Nearly 3 million children under 5 die of sepsis annually, the WHO says.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 1.7 million American adults develop the life-threatening condition annually.

By Sepsis Alliance's estimates, sepsis is the third-leading cause of death in the United States and the No. 1 cause of hospital readmissions, says Thomas Heymann, president and chief executive of the nonprofit group Sepsis Alliance. It's more common and more deadly than stroke. People like me who are immunocompromised — I have Crohn's disease and have been disabled with other conditions since 2011 — are at greater risk for sepsis. (Infants and people over 65 — I was 58 — are also at higher risk.)

Later, I learned that untreated diverticulitis, an intestinal infection, that had been masked by medications I was taking for other issues had triggered my body's near-fatal cascade of immune system responses.



ELIZABETH VON OEHSEN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Red flags and red herrings

On the morning my sepsis crisis began, I'd had a fever, excruciating left hip pain and low blood pressure. My breathing was rapid and shallow, and I was also confused and anxious, classic red flags for sepsis.

At the ER near my home, a physician correctly suspected that the left hip pain was a "red herring" and that the Prednisone I was taking for chronic conditions and breathing issues was masking pain in my gut until things reached crisis stage.

Instead of fixating on the hip pain, he ordered an abdominal CT, which revealed that my colon had perforated and fecal matter and bacteria were leaking into my gut. My immune system consequently went into overdrive, leading to sepsis and ultimately septic shock. My body was shutting down.

In Baltimore, I was treated with IV antibiotics including Vancomycin, IV fluids and vasopressors, medications to make my blood vessels constrict and raise my dangerously low blood pressure.

"Our goal for every patient with sepsis is to start antibiotics within 60 minutes," says Jonathan Baghdadi, associate hospital epidemiologist at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, where I was flown. "The evidence shows that for septic shock, every hour that antibiotics are late increases the mortality."

A colorectal surgeon also had to remove the source of my infection, about two feet of colon where the worst of the intestinal infection — diverticulitis — was and where the colon had perforated. Physician Andrea Chao Bafford pulled a piece of intestine through my abdominal wall to form a stoma to eliminate waste. I would wear a colostomy bag for seven months while I healed.

Jackie Duda with the Sepsis Awareness Month proclamation from Maryland Gov. Wes Moore (D).



JACKIE DUDA

After surgery, in the dark intensive care unit, I heard a woman's calm voice, "You were very sick." It was Bafford, who had just saved my life. Machines were rhythmically beeping in the background. I nodded and slipped back into nightmares of red lights in the ceiling chasing me and people melting as though they were in a Salvador Dalí surrealist painting.

I spent eight days in the ICU and another five days in a post-surgical unit before being transferred to a nearby facility where I received intense physical rehab and learned to walk again.

I was discharged on June 18 — 27 days after my emergency flight — and rang the bell in the gym. Everyone applauded, but I didn't feel triumphant; I felt wasted, a shell of my former self.

Recovery and struggles

Weeks later, I listened to July Fourth fireworks from inside my home and cried, recalling the summer before when our family had taken day trips to isolated Southern Maryland beaches to escape the coronavirus. By contrast, in summer 2021, I'd wake up fearful, anxious and sobbing. My husband and daughters had to do everything for me, and my hair fell out in clumps in the shower.

By fall, I was well enough to start outpatient physical therapy and mental health counseling. As the weeks passed, my pelvic floor got stronger, and I was able to walk long distances again. But my iron level hit rock bottom, and I needed iron infusions, and a colonoscopy and cardiac and pulmonary medical clearances to prepare for another surgery — this one to reverse my colostomy.

Despite my intense anxieties about it, my colostomy reversal surgery on Dec. 8, 2021, was a success. After that, adding aquatic therapy to my rehab program was a game changer. I rejoined the YMCA to strength-train and swim and started writing again after a 10-year absence. I regained the muscle I lost.

Anyone who has faced near-death from sepsis can benefit from paying extra attention to their mental health, because none of us seem the same after sepsis. I still have nightmares, and a PTSD monster to tame. I also get very nervous before doctor's appointments, dreading getting medical bad news, including a recurrence of sepsis — once you've had sepsis, you're more susceptible to having it again.

Throughout my recovery, I engaged with others through Sepsis Alliance Connect, an online support community, to talk these feelings out with other sepsis survivors. That helped me turn a corner, and since then I've become an advocate for sepsis awareness, speaking to community groups and the media about this insidious, dangerous condition.

Sepsis took my strength, my sanity, my hair, and it almost took me. But I'm getting much stronger and embracing everything around me.

What was almost my ending was just another beginning.

Jackie Duda is a freelance writer and disability advocate in Frederick, Md. She documents her life with chronic illness and surviving sepsis on Instagram @jackiesjourney4.

Sepsis: What to watch for

Sepsis Alliance has developed a mnemonic device — TIME — to help patients and advocates catch sepsis early.

TIME stands for:

Temperature, higher or lower than normal

Infection

Mental decline, appearing confused, sleepy, difficult to rouse

Extremely ill, which can include severe pain, discomfort, shortness of breath

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends asking your doctor, "Could it be sepsis?" if you have an infection and are concerned.

Many people are setting boundaries. But do they know what that means?

BY REBECCA FISHBEIN

Sophia Benoit, a 30-year-old comedian and advice columnist, believes it's important to set emotional and physical boundaries at work and in relationships. But she's seen plenty of people misuse the term, too.

A friend uses the term "boundaries" "to make sure the friend group does what she wants to do," Benoit said. "Like, 'I'm not going to go to the beach today, that's my boundary; we're going to go here.'"

The concept of boundaries has entered the lexicon as part of "therapy speak," the use of terms that therapists use in a clinical setting, but are often wrongly applied in mainstream culture.

Therapists say that while it's healthy for people to talk about setting boundaries, many people use the term incorrectly — and when misused, a boundary can become a means of controlling someone else's behavior or making demands.

But how do boundaries work? Why do we need them? And how are people getting it wrong?

Explaining boundaries

Boundaries are personal guidelines people set to help them maintain healthy habits and relationships, or to protect themselves according to their comfort levels and values.

While the concept of boundaries has been discussed in the psychology community for years, the term became especially popular in the 1990s, spurred by best-selling titles such as "Boundaries: Where You End and I Begin" and "Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No to Take Control of Your Life."

These and other self-help books "very assertively proselytized for boundaries," said Lily Scherlis, who wrote about the origins of boundaries for Parapraxis Magazine.

Today, setting boundaries has become a hot topic on social media, where therapists and self-help gurus post videos and memes dispensing tips about boundaries and mental wellness.

There are all sorts of ways to set healthy boundaries. You can set a boundary with yourself, such as going to sleep at a certain time or avoiding situations that make you uncomfortable.

At work and in relationships

Professional boundaries might include avoiding office gossip, saying no to extra tasks when your workload is too heavy or never working through lunch.

You also can set boundaries in personal relationships that reflect how you want to be treated, such as taking a half-hour of alone time after work so you can decompress.

If you're in a conversation that makes you uncomfortable or someone is behaving toward you in a way that makes you feel bad, it's appropriate to set a boundary, said Mariana Bockarova, a psychology instructor at the University of Toronto.

For instance, a relative at a family function may quiz you about your dating life. "That might feel really uncomfortable. It might feel like someone's prying information out of you," she said. "Saying something like 'I don't really like talking about that' would be an appropriate example of a boundary being crossed and handling that."

If you're in a romantic relationship, Bockarova said, a boundary may look like asking your partner not to yell at you during an argument or not to criticize the way you dress.

"It is your right as a human being to say, 'This makes me uncomfortable,' and either that person stops, or you remove yourself from that situation," she said.

Controlling behavior

While boundaries can be useful tools for self-protection, therapists say they are increasingly seeing some people misuse the term to justify trying to control other people's behavior.



CHELSEA CONRAD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Leah Aguirre, a psychotherapist and co-author of "The Girl's Guide to Relationships, Sexuality, and Consent," said that while the proliferation of therapeutic terms has given people access to necessary mental health tools, people may overgeneralize concepts such as boundaries and triggers, and use them to rationalize certain behaviors.

"What's great about social media is we're familiarizing ourselves with all these mental health and psychology terms, but we're not understanding that there's context and nuance to these terms," she said. Instead, Aguirre said, these words can become tools for manipulation and even abuse.

"A boundary can become abusive when you're infringing on someone's autonomy and personal life and identity," she said. "If you're saying, 'My boundary is for you not to have male friends,' for example, which is something I see a lot in abusive dynamics, it's essentially a means of control.".

Aguirre said she has clients who feel guilt after being told they are not respecting a boundary. But in reality, the other person in the relationship is misusing the term as a means of control.

"It's easy to fall into these abusive or manipulative dynamics because you want to respect someone's mental health journey," she said.

Justifying selfish behavior

Boundaries are not a means to manage another person's behavior or choices that are made independent of you.

If you tell someone you don't like it when they wear a certain outfit, or you don't want them to post certain photos of themselves, "that's not a violation of a boundary, that's just a preference," Bockarova said.

Sera Scott, a 31-year-old literary executive from Los Angeles, said a former live-in partner asked her to move after meeting someone new, and justified hurtful behavior by invoking mental wellness and boundary-setting.

"I would say something like, 'You're really changing your behavior towards me all of a sudden,' and she would say, 'This is just me setting boundaries, it's not me changing behavior.'"

The experience made Scott feel like she no longer had control of her choices or environment.

"I had to rush moving out, and I ended up in a place I wasn't that excited about. I was really not happy there," she said. "Now I see how manipulative that was."

Using boundaries to be bossy

Benoit said sometimes people invoke the concept of boundaries when they're really talking about personal preferences to justify acting in their own interest.

"We've all been taught that you're not supposed to cross people's boundaries," Benoit said. "But if it's always someone saying, 'I want to do this thing and we're all going to do this thing,' that's not boundary-setting, that's being in charge."

Jonice Webb, author of "Running on Empty No More," said that healthy boundaries can be ways to protect yourself from being uncomfortable, put upon, misunderstood or overcontrolled. But some people, she says, mistake setting boundaries for making demands.

"It's important in romantic relationships to have boundaries be a back-and-forth conversation, so you're not saying, 'Here's what I need, and do it — or else,'" she said.

"If it's a real dealbreaker, like, 'If you cheat on me, I'm out,' that's one thing," Webb continued. "But if you're asking them to change themselves, that's not fair."

It's important to remember that setting boundaries is about how you want to be treated or live your life — and how you react when someone crosses the line.

For instance, if you're in a romantic relationship with someone who seems to flirt a lot with a particular person, it's okay to say, "I worry about this relationship you have with this person; it makes me uncomfortable.'

But if you can't come to an understanding around the issue, you may decide the relationship doesn't work for you. "That would be a healthy boundary," Webb said.

In this case, you're not asking the other person to change their behavior, but you're changing your own behavior.

"It's important that we're seen and heard for who we are," Aguirre said. "And not made to feel like we don't have a choice in our day-to-day decisions."

More young women facing breast cancer, seeking answers

BREAST CANCER FROM E1

age 20 to 29, the increase was 5.3 percent. Breast cancer accounted for the highest number of cancer cases in younger people.

The rate of late-stage breast cancer diagnoses in young women also has been climbing. In women under 40, the rate has increased by about 3 percent each year from 2000 to 2019, according to data from the American Cancer Society.

And while breast cancer mortality rates for older women declined from 2010 to 2017, the rate among younger women did not decrease.

"We have to get out of the idea of, 'Hell, you're young, it can't happen to you.' It does happen to young women, and clearly, it's affecting their survival," said Debra Monticciolo, the section chief of breast imaging at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

Despite these trends, there's little advice for younger women regarding early detection of breast cancer. Screening mammograms are recommended only for women between ages 40 and 74; studies show they aren't effective for younger women. Most medical organizations don't recommend routine breast self-exams or clinical exams because studies show they don't make a difference in mortality.

In interviews, young women with breast cancer said they felt dismissed by their doctors when they first raised concerns about their breast health. Now, a growing group of patients and experts are calling for further research and conversations about breast cancer among young women.

"Age 40 should not be the first time you're discussing breast cancer with your physician," said Tari King, chief of the division of breast surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Few options for younger women

Kaminky, who lives in Thornton, Colo., has no family history of breast cancer. She caught hers early — at stage 1B — but a biopsy showed it was an aggressive type that is more likely to come back. On the advice of her doctors, she underwent a double mastectomy and months of chemotherapy while caring for her sons, ages 3 and 6, as a single mother.

When she started losing her hair, she asked her young sons to help cut it off. On some days, she felt like she could barely get off the couch, yet she had to keep working her full-time human resources job at a tech company. She has emptied out her retirement savings and can't afford to take more unpaid medical leave.

"It's absolutely 1,000 percent going to affect the trajectory of my life and the kids' lives. It's so hard financially, which is going to hinder me and my kids, but emotionally, from now on, my life is changed," she said.

She finished chemotherapy in July and is waiting for an upcoming scan to see whether it worked.

Experts say younger women with breast cancer often experience higher emotional distress than older women. Getting a diagnosis at such a young age can lead to feelings of isolation as it may not align with societal expectations of advancing at work, getting married or having children.

Compared with older women, young women are also more likely to be diagnosed with late-stage and aggressive breast cancers. They also face an increased risk of the cancer coming back.

"Obviously, it's catastrophic for anyone to have breast cancer. But to have an aggressive cancer in someone who is young is particularly devastating," said William Dahut, chief scientific officer of the American Cancer Society.

Why younger women aren't screened

Experts say there isn't evidence of cost effectiveness or potential benefit to recommend universal breast cancer screenings for women younger than 40. Another concern is the potential harms of screening, which include the psychological toll of false positives and more lifetime exposure to small doses of radiation.

Monticciolo believes that at age 25, all women should get a risk assessment. Those who are found to be at higher risk should get screened regularly, and all women should be able to easily access mammography or other diagnostic tools if they have concerns about changes in their breasts, she said.

Evolving risk factors

Experts say there are no clear explanations why more women are being diagnosed with breast cancer at younger ages, but there are several possible factors.

Genetics is a known risk factor for breast cancer, but that does not appear to be driving the trend, said Elizabeth Suh-Burgmann, chair for gynecologic oncology for Kaiser Permanente's Northern California region. Most women who develop breast cancer at a young age don't have a genetic risk, she said.

One possible contributing factor, Suh-Burgmann said, is that more women are delaying their first pregnancy. Getting pregnant for the first time at age 35 or later is a risk factor for breast cancer. One theory is that after age 35, breasts have had more time to accumulate abnormal cells. Changes in the breast that occur during pregnancy can accelerate the development of those abnormal cells into cancer, Suh-Burgmann said.

Having dense breasts is another risk factor. Early menstruation and late menopause are also factors, because breasts are exposed to estrogen longer. Lifestyle, diet, weight, alcohol consumption and environmental exposures can also all influence breast cancer risk.

Race can also be a factor: Black women are more likely than White women to be diagnosed with breast cancer at a younger age. They are also more likely to be diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer called triple-negative breast cancer. Experts don't know why this is happening, but say socioeconomic factors and exposure to pollution could be playing a role.

After she started experiencing sharp, recurring pain in her chest, it took Charisma McDuffie, who is Black, seven months and visits to four separate doctors to finally get a diagnosis. In January 2020, she was diagnosed with Stage 3 triple-negative breast cancer. She was 28.

Like many other young women, McDuffie, a Brooklyn native, decided to freeze her eggs before starting treatment because cancer treatments can affect fertility. She found herself at the doctor's office constantly, juggling fertility treatments with cancer-related tests and appointments. After freezing her eggs, McDuffie underwent chemotherapy, radiation, a double mastectomy and reconstructive surgery.

Now, at 32, she has been cancer-free for three years. The experience still takes a toll on her mentally and emotionally. Some days she is fine; on others, she cries.

"I never had self-esteem issues. Now I have all these insecurities," McDuffie said of her mastectomy scars.

Financial toll of breast cancer

Lindsey Madla, 33, of Minneapolis, feels that financial barriers limited her options for treatment. She was working two jobs — as a part-time behavioral assistant and a dance instructor — but took unpaid leave when she was diagnosed with Stage 2 breast cancer in April. Her cancer was considered grade 3, which may be faster-growing and more likely to spread.

Madla decided to get a lumpectomy to only remove a small portion of her breast. After the surgery, she found out the cancer spread to her lymph nodes. She has now started chemotherapy and needs a mastectomy. To help cover her medical costs, Madla set up a GoFundMe account. Kaminky's friend also organized a fundraiser on GoFundMe to help cover her medical costs.

Breast cancer often takes a greater financial toll on younger patients, who are more likely to have lower incomes, less savings, and high-deductible health insurance plans or no health insurance at all.

"There's a whole other side of this where young survivors have higher rates of bankruptcy and financial toxicity and all of these things because of where they are in their lives," said Mary L. Gemignani, co-director for the Young Women with Breast Cancer program at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Madla said she has been having nightmares since getting diagnosed.

"Being powerless is triggering. Anticipation and uncertainty is triggering. Not being in control of my body is triggering," she said.

A call for more research

When she was 24, Vanessa Chapoy spoke to a health-care provider about the lump she noticed in her breast. She was told breast cancer doesn't happen to women her age and that it was benign. She wasn't aware at the time that she had a family history of breast cancer.

"If I had listened to that doctor, I wouldn't be here today," she said.

Chapoy followed up with an OB/GYN and learned she had a golf ball-size tumor in her breast; it was Stage 2 breast cancer. After a lumpectomy, 16 rounds of chemotherapy and a double mastectomy, she is cancer-free.

She is now 27 and living in Reston, Va., but she is still recuperating. She gets hormone therapy and sometimes experiences hot flashes or pain throughout her body. She also hasn't felt as successful in her sales job as she once did.

"It did slow down my career. The part that I'm the most insecure about is my chemo brain and the fact that it is affecting my memory," she said, referring to a phenomenon in which cancer treatment may cause brain fog or concentration and memory issues. "I have to work even harder."

At first, she felt alone in these feelings, but soon found online communities for young women also affected by breast cancer. Chapoy is among a growing group of people advocating for clearer answers.

More breast cancer studies are including younger patients, but Leticia Varella, a breast oncologist at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, said there's still a need for more research on screenings for young women.

"Young women should never be told they are too young to get breast cancer," she said.

Caitlin Gilbert contributed to this report.



JOANNA KULESZA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



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"Age 40 should not be the first time you're discussing breast cancer with your physician."

Tari King, chief of the division of breast surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston

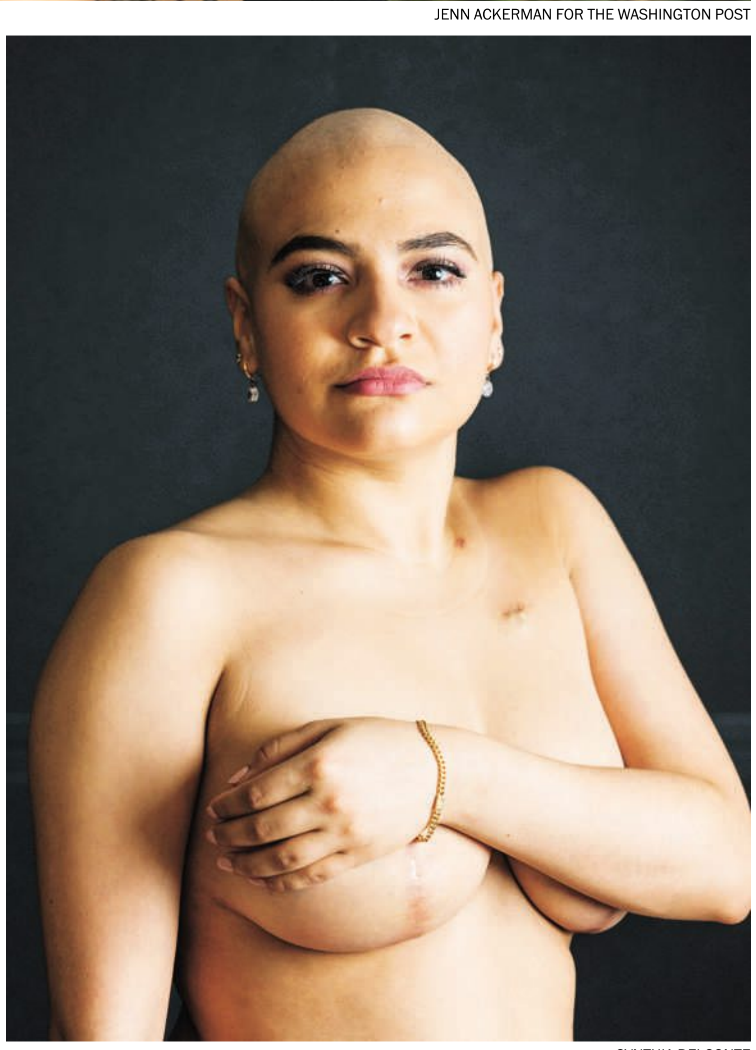
CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: Kelsey Kaminky has her hair shaved off. She finished chemotherapy in July. Lindsey Madla and her mother, Kristen Triplett, in Minneapolis. Vanessa Chapoy shows her surgery scar. Madla holds the bras she says she no longer needs. Kaminky with self-administered injections that were part of her cancer treatment.



JENN ACKERMAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



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CYNTHIA DELCONTE